



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Businesses Give Hosokawa High Marks for Seattle

OW2011092493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT
20 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Japan's business leaders Saturday [20 November] generally gave high marks to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's performance in his meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation conference in Seattle.

Some, though, felt Hosokawa [ought] to do more to enliven the Japanese economy and bring the stalled global trade talks to a successful end.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said the just-finished informal summit talks in Seattle "are laudable in that the leaders of Japan and the U.S. reaffirm their readiness to keep working to bring about reforms and exchanged opinions without reservations."

Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren), also noted that Hosokawa's pledge to Clinton to carry out an income tax reduction will have a favorable impact on Washington's attitude toward Tokyo.

Kosaku Inaba, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said Japan should make further efforts to help conclude the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

The two leaders vowed to do their utmost to wrap up the drawn out talks before the December 15 deadline, but Hosokawa stopped short of making a commitment to open up the Japanese rice market.

Keidanren's Hiraiwa also predicted that Hosokawa will come under increased pressure from Washington to boost domestic demand, ease government controls, and open markets to trim the bilateral trade gap in the coming months before his planned third meeting with Clinton in February in Washington.

"We want the premier to show more political leadership in embarking on further full-fledged economic steps to revive the Japanese economy," he said.

BOJ Comments on U.S. Economic Figures

OW2211102293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1010 GMT
22 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—The U.S. economy remains on a path of gentle, steady growth, with prices stable and final demand firm, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) said Monday [22 November]. U.S. gross domestic product picked up 2.8 percent in the third quarter, and although consumer confidence slipped in October from the previous month, personal consumption for retail and

durable goods continued to grow, Japan's central bank said in a monthly overseas economic assessment.

Housing investment grew briskly, helped by low interest rates and rebuilding after flooding in the midwest, the report said.

U.S. interest rates have been edging up lately, a BOJ international finance official noted, but he said the bank does not expect any major changes soon.

Excluding aircraft, orders for nonmilitary plant and equipment rose, boosting industrial production, while nonfarm payrolls continued growing, especially outside the manufacturing sector, the report said.

Britain remained the only bright spot in Europe, where no clear signals of improvement emerged, it said, noting 23 months of growing unemployment in Germany and 13 months in France.

Asian economies remained robust, bolstered by infrastructure spending, although South Korean growth was slowing and lack of electric power stunted Philippine growth, the official said.

Acknowledging concerns that China's economy is overheating, he said no big reverses are expected after the country's economy jumped 13.3 percent in the first 10 months of the year.

Government, U.S. Plan 'Framework' Auto Talks

OW2211143693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT
22 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Japan and the United States are expected to hold a third round of vice-ministerial talks in Tokyo late December on ways to boost the foreign share of the Japanese car and auto parts market, a top Japanese Trade Ministry official said Monday [22 November].

The official said the coming talks would start in the fourth week of next month and last about a week under a bilateral trade framework agreement.

At the talks, detailed discussions will probably be held on proposals made by Japanese and U.S. negotiators at the second-round talks in Tokyo in October toward a Japan-U.S. summit meeting scheduled for next February, according to ministry sources.

Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton agreed Saturday in Seattle to meet again in Washington on February 11.

Fujitsu, Apple Japan Plan To Develop Software

OW2211052093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0343 GMT
22 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Fujitsu Ltd. and Apple Japan Inc. said Monday [22 November] they have

agreed to cooperate in developing compact disc read-only memory (CD-ROM) software titles. They will exchange technical data on CD-ROM operation programs and also provide such data to other companies making software.

Compatibility of the several different types of CD-ROM now available is low because of different platforms—the hardware architecture of particular models of computers.

A spokesman for Fujitsu, Japan's leading maker of personal computers, known for its FM Towns multimedia models, said it plans to adopt an animation tool program called Quicktime which was designed for Apple's Macintosh model. More than 300 Japanese titles of Quicktime CD-ROMs will be available for use in Fujitsu machines, while Apple computers will be able to run 800 titles developed for Fujitsu's models.

CD-ROMs are becoming popular among individual users and in education and entertainment as they can provide combined data of digital sound, computer graphics and animated pictures in addition to text processing.

Fujitsu and Apple Japan, the Japanese subsidiary of Apple Computer Inc. of the United States, will support independent software companies in the development of common applications for both their platforms, instead of each sticking to its traditional platform only, they said.

Akira Kuwahara, general manager of the personal systems group of Fujitsu, told a news conference, "With the agreement, the multimedia CD-ROM market, currently standing at 100 million yen, one-tenth the size of Japan's PC (personal computer) market, will further expand. PC users will be able to enjoy a wide range and variety of software titles."

David Nagel, senior vice president of Apple Computer, said Apple and Fujitsu have had a number of discussions about cooperation, including CD-ROMs.

Cray Wins Bid To Sell Supercomputer to MITI

OW2211131093 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1022 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Announcer-read report over video: from the "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] A U.S. manufacturer has won a bid to supply one of 11 supercomputers which the Japanese Government plans to buy. At Japan-U.S. economic talks, the United States showed its strong interest in sales of supercomputers. The Japanese Government plans to buy 11 supercomputers by using about 30 billion yen included in the first supplementary budget for the current fiscal year.

Cray Research of the United States won the bid to supply the first supercomputer to the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, which is affiliated to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI].

The agency closed applications for the bidding on 12 November. Cray Research was the only company to take part in the bidding. There was no competitor because the agency intended to replace its old Cray computer with a new one. Cray Research's bid in price and technical standards satisfied the agency's requirements, so it was awarded the contract.

At Japan-U.S. economic talks, the United States showed its strong interest in the supercomputer issue and urged the Japanese Government to expand its procurement of U.S. goods. Bids for the procurement of the remaining 10 supercomputers are scheduled to be made between November and January 1994.

Purchase of the remaining computers will be discussed at future Japan-U.S. economic talks and the U.S. Government has said it will continue to monitor the outcome of the series of bids.

Mitsubishi Electric Plans To Import Equipment

OW2211003493 Tokyo KYODO in English 2334 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Mitsubishi Electric Corp., a major comprehensive electric machinery maker, will import equipment for power generation from about 30 foreign makers, the NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN said Monday [22 November].

Mitsubishi will then export the foreign-made tools as components for its power-generating plants, the industrial daily said. The company is also studying importing circuit breakers from its wholly owned U.S. subsidiary, Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, for sale to domestic electric power firms starting in two years.

The plans are designed to tackle the yen's sharp upswing in value, which makes exports of domestically produced tools less profitable and cheaper foreign-made machinery more competitive, the daily said.

Police Report Detention of Chinese Stowaways

Fifteen in Shirahama Detained

OW2211072193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0711 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Wakayama, Nov. 22 KYODO—Police in Shirahama, Wakayama Prefecture, detained 15 Chinese people Monday [22 November] who appear to have hidden aboard a Chinese ship, police said.

Policemen boarded the ship docked at Shirahama, about 100 kilometers south of Osaka, and found the 15, who they believe to be stowaways.

Although police have only discovered 15, they believe dozens of others were aboard the Chinese vessel and police are combing the area in search of them. Police suspect the stowaways of attempting to enter Japan illegally.

The boat, a 200-ton fishing vessel, was docked in a small bay 300 meters south of Tsubaki Onsen, near Shirahama.

Additional Illegals Arrested

*OW2211142493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1357 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Wakayama, Nov. 22 KYODO—Police arrested 48 Chinese on Monday [22 November] for allegedly trying to sneak into Japan through a small port in Wakayama Prefecture, western Japan. Police boarded a Chinese fishing ship docked at a bay some two kilometers southwest of the Shirahama hot spring resort in the prefecture, where they initially found 15 of them, they said.

Later, police detained another 33 Chinese on suspicion of trying to enter the country in violation of the immigration control law.

The Chinese stowaways, aged between 20 and 50 and including five women, told police they left Fujian Province on November 8 aboard the ship. Some of them told police they wanted to come to Japan to earn money.

Police said there might be a total of 60 to 70 aboard the 200-ton vessel. The remaining Chinese found their way ashore and about 200 police are currently searching for them in the area.

Last April, Maritime Safety Agency officials blocked an attempt by a group of 145 Chinese to enter the country illegally aboard a wooden fishing vessel off Akune, Kagoshima Prefecture, in western Japan. They were also from Fujian Province.

In 1991, 112 Chinese were detained for trying to enter the country illegally and 269 were apprehended during the first seven months of last year, Justice Ministry officials said.

Taiwanese Urge Repayment of Postal Savings

*OW2211115493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Two Taiwanese are currently in Japan to call for repayment of postal savings deposited by numerous Taiwanese people during Japanese colonial rule. Hsieh Tian-la and Lin A-chen are representatives of a 10,000-member Association of Taiwanese, who once served for the defunct Japanese armed forces, and their bereaved families.

On Monday [22 November], the two met with Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) legislator Tadashi Itagaki, who supports the association.

The Japanese Government is considering repaying to the Taiwanese a total of 452.4 million yen including interest, government sources said. If index-linked, the sum would be boosted 10-fold to several billions of yen, the sources said.

The idea is the same as the one the government used to repay the savings which Okinawan residents deposited before the war. From December 1969 to February 1972, just before Okinawa reverted from U.S. rule to Japan, the government refunded 94 million yen in savings to residents, adding 339 million yen to principals in indexation.

Hsieh and Lin said they have come to Japan to learn more about the idea, which they said is getting much attention in Taiwan.

The Taiwanese Association says Japanese rulers in Taiwan forced residents to deposit part of their monthly salaries in postal savings accounts.

Japan occupied Taiwan from 1885 to 1945. Before and during the war, Japan also encouraged the purchase of government bonds not only at home but also in its colonies of Korea and Taiwan.

Former British Prime Minister Thatcher Arrives

*OW2111084593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0744 GMT
21 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 21 KYODO—Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in Tokyo Sunday [21 November] for a nine-day visit at the invitation of the publisher of her memoirs in Japanese.

On Friday, Thatcher is scheduled to receive an honorary doctorate in politics from the private Gakushuin University for the historic and political significance of the 1980s "Thatcherism," a conservative philosophy.

During her stay in Japan, she will also give lectures in Kagoshima and Kanazawa about the international community and Japan.

Rice Collection From Farmers Said Still Slow

*OW2211134193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—The government's collection of rice harvested this year from farmers as of mid-November totaled only 3.4 million tons, 60 percent of the volume by the same date last year, Farm Ministry officials said Monday [22 November].

The total rice collection is likely to be short of 4 million tons, analysts said. The analysts attributed the unusually slow pace of collection mainly to farmers holding back rice in anticipation of a further rise in prices because of the shortage anticipated from a poor harvest, despite all-out efforts being made by the food agency.

The deadline for farmers to sell to agricultural cooperatives for private distribution and pricing is set at the end of next March. For farmers selling rice to the government through cooperatives, the deadline is set for the end of next May.

However, the agency's collection is believed to effectively end in mid-December. In the face of the slow progress in rice collection, the agency Monday ordered its prefectural offices to ensure stricter supervision and stronger guidance to achieve a smoother supply to wholesalers.

Farm Ministry Bans Harvest of Inedible Rice

*OW2211102493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Japan's Farm Ministry has prohibited farmers from reaping rice that is not ripe, a practice it has been subsidizing up to now, ministry officials said Monday [22 November]. The ministry has already issued an instruction to prefectural governments to tell farmers to stop the practice in principle, they said.

To boost rice production from fiscal 1994, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has eased its policy of reducing the area of farmland for growing rice.

Reaping rice that was green and inedible was widely carried out to avoid exceeding government-imposed production limits and the government has been paying subsidies to farmers who did so. The prematurely reaped rice is used for making matting, ornaments and livestock feed, or simply thrown away.

This year, despite the record poor rice crop due to unusual weather in the summer, rice in some 4,900 hectares of paddy was reaped before being ripe.

This was down from some 10,000 hectares where green rice was reaped in and before 1991, ministry officials said.

LDP's Kono Urges Concessions on Reform Bills

*OW2211092193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) President Yohei Kono on Monday [22 November] urged the coalition government to make more concessions to the LDP in enacting political reform bills in the House of Councillors.

Kono said in a lecture that the government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa should make efforts to get as great a consensus as possible in getting reform bills through the upper house by moving closer to the LDP's position on the two rival packages proposed by the LDP and the government.

Last Thursday, the 511-seat House of Representatives passed a government-proposed package of four reform bills designed to clear up political corruption by a vote of 270 to 226.

The upper house is to debate the bills during the remaining period of the current extraordinary Diet session set to wind up on December 15.

The LDP and the seven-party coalition differ over how to distribute seats for a new dual electoral system for the lower house to replace the current multi-seat constituencies, which have resulted in massive campaign spending among candidates of the same party.

The LDP wants 300 seats elected through single-seat districts and 171 through proportional representation, while the government calls for allocating 274 for single-seat areas and 226 for proportional representation.

The LDP wants the proportional constituencies to be based on prefectures, while the government wants them to be determined on a nationwide basis.

Before the passage of the government bills through the lower house, Hosokawa and Kono failed to reach a last-minute compromise to narrow their differences over the two packages. Kono claimed it "is not appropriate" for the government to take measures to enact the bills through the upper house if the LDP does not agree with them.

The coalition government holds a majority in the 252-member upper house.

Murayama Views Penalizing Party Dissidents

*OW2011112793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT
20 Nov 93*

[Text] Tottori, Nov. 20 KYODO—Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ] Chairman Tomiichi Murayama suggested prudence Saturday [20 November] in dealing with five dissident members who voted Thursday against a package of four government-proposed political reform bills.

Murayama told a news conference in Tottori that in keeping with the status of each Diet member, the party leadership should not handle the matter in too cavalier a manner. However, he said the SDPJ will take some action against the dissidents but did not elaborate.

On Thursday, the House of Representatives voted 270 to 226 to pass the reform bills and sent them immediately to the House of Councillors for further deliberations.

The bills are chiefly designed to establish a 500-seat lower house comprising 274 seats elected from single-seat districts and 226 through proportional representation.

The SDPJ, the largest of the seven parties in the ruling coalition led by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, instructed party members to vote for the bills.

The five dissidents who challenged the party decision say the bills could jeopardize the parliamentary existence of the SDPJ.

Among opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) members, 13 rebelled to support the government bills in defiance of the party leadership. The LDP has suspended the dissidents from party activities.

Parties Fail To Set Reform Talks Schedule

*OW2211133193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1314 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Ruling and opposition parties failed Monday [22 November] to set a schedule for deliberating a package of four government-proposed political reform bills in the House of Councillors, officials said. The upper house's steering committee held a session intermittently Monday in an effort to decide a timetable for the debate on the reform bills, which are designed to change the House of Representatives' election system and tighten controls on political funds.

The lower house passed the bills in a vote last Thursday and sent them immediately to the second chamber for further discussions.

The seven parties in the ruling coalition proposed the upper house begin deliberations Wednesday, with the aim of enacting them by the end of the year as pledged by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Two opposition parties, the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the Japanese Communist Party [JCP], instead demanded an early presentation and debate of a supplementary budget aimed at boosting the slumping economy, the officials said.

With the schedule talks hitting a snag, the current 90-day extraordinary Diet session may be extended for a certain period beyond the scheduled December 15 close, political sources said.

Hosokawa has openly hinted at stepping down from office if his government fails to achieve political reform by the end of this year.

The coalition will call on House of Councillors President Bunbei Hara to open a plenary session as early as possible to discuss the reform bills, the sources said.

At a news conference Monday, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura criticized the LDP for its delaying tactic over the timetable. Takemura told reporters he cannot understand at all that the main opposition party is delaying the schedule without a specific reason.

The reform legislation package passed the 511-seat lower house last Thursday on a vote of 270 to 226 with the backing of members of the coalition parties and 13 LDP dissidents.

In the 252-seat upper house, the coalition holds a simple majority of 131 seats against the LDP's 98, the JCP's 11 and 11 others.

The bills would replace multiseat constituencies in the lower house with a dual system combining 274 single-seat districts and 226 proportional representatives. Many members of the coalition parties and the LDP say the multiseat constituencies are the root cause of political corruption in Japan.

The reform drive follows the recruit stocks-for-favor scandal of the late 1980s that included then Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, his immediate predecessor Yasuhiro Nakasone and then Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who became premier in 1991.

More recently, LDP power broker Shin Kanemaru retired from politics after being fined for the receipt of 500 million yen in illicit political donations from the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin delivery firm. Kanemaru was later arrested and indicted on a massive tax evasion charge.

LDP's Kono Urges Tax Cut Over 7 Trillion Yen

*OW2011062093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0532 GMT
20 Nov 93*

[Text] Sapporo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] President Yohei Kono urged the government Saturday [20 November] to implement an income tax cut of more than 7 trillion yen and not to combine it with a deferred raise in the consumption levy.

Speaking at a news conference in Sapporo, Kono warned that a government plan to balance a direct tax cut with a raise in the consumption tax rate would undermine its stated goal of bolstering private consumption.

"An income tax cut of 5 to 7 trillion yen is not enough," Kono said. The consumption tax is an indirect levy imposed on sales of most goods and services in Japan.

The income tax cut "would not be able to stimulate the economy as long as the public is aware of a plan to raise the rate of the consumption tax (from the current 3 percent) after a certain period from the implementation of the tax cut," Kono said.

Press reports earlier said the ruling coalition is considering raising the consumption tax rate after a delay of two years from the tax cut to make up for expected revenue shortfalls from the cut.

Kono also said the LDP would demand an amendment to the government's electoral reform bills during upcoming deliberations on the reform package at the House of Councillors, where two votes on the bills are expected next month.

He said the LDP will call for altering the mechanism of selecting 226 House of Representatives legislators to be chosen under proportional representation, out of the proposed 500-member lower chamber.

The LDP has long demanded that the 226 legislators be chosen on the basis of lists of candidates to be put up by each political party in each of Japan's 47 prefectures, rather than from the proposed nationally-unified list put up by each party.

Ministry 'Not Considering' Funding Stock Market*OW2211101793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Vice Finance Minister Jiro Saito said Monday [22 November] the Finance Ministry is not considering infusing public funds into the stock market to overcome a protracted slump. Saito told a regular press conference the ministry has no intention of acting on such a plan and repeated that stock market activity should basically be decided by the market's supply-demand situation.

The current slump can be traced to a lingering uncertainty over corporate earnings prospects, Saito said. The Finance Ministry will keep a close tab on the market for the time being, he said, noting everything needed is included in a set of measures released in August last year by his ministry as a way to ensure stability in Japan's financial system.

Saito's comments came after the 225-issue Nikkei stock average tumbled 556.35 points to 17,384.84 in Tokyo trading Friday, the second largest daily fall since the beginning of the year following a 592.11-point fall on June 21.

Meanwhile, Saito hailed as "meaningful" the latest accord among the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) countries to launch a regular meeting of their finance ministers.

The gathering of APEC finance ministers will provide them with opportunities to exchange information in an informal manner, Saito said.

Ministry Officials on Workers' Funds Change*OW2211142593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1400 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—The Finance Ministry will allow financial institutions from December to invest funds in "zaikai," or workers' property accumulation savings, into stock investment trusts at a certain percentage, ministry officials said Monday [22 November].

Such investment has been restrained due to the risks in stock investment which the ministry considered inappropriate for zaikai, which are tax-exempt savings that workers set aside from their monthly salaries through employers.

In order to revitalize the slumping stock market, however, the securities industry has strengthened its call on the ministry to allow investment using the savings. The officials said the ministry decided to allow the savings to be invested in stock investment trusts with some conditions to avoid risks as much as possible.

One condition is that financial institutions should invest no more than 50 percent of their general-purpose zaikai savings into the trusts, they said.

The ceiling for pension and housing-purpose zaikai savings is 30 percent.

Agency Reports Household Spending Falls in Sep*OW2211071493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0655 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Household spending in Japan fell an inflation-adjusted 1.7 percent in September from a year before, plunging for the fifth straight month since May, the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) announced Monday [22 November]. The five months of consecutive decline was the first time since the June-October period of 1981.

Average spending per household in September was 308,652 yen. Spending on education, public utilities charges, food and health services came down, but outlays on furniture and clothing increased, the agency said.

"Effects of the cool and bad summer weather, like higher vegetable prices and less use of electricity, will probably not be carried over to the October figures," an EPA official said. "But that doesn't mean there is an encouraging sign at the moment," he added.

Average spending by households of salaried workers slid 0.8 percent from a year earlier to 325,222 yen, while that of other categories dropped by 3.6 percent 279,043 yen.

Average income of the salaried workers gained a real 1.2 percent to 444,007 yen, but the income of their spouses plunged 3.2 percent from a year earlier. This brought the net disposable income of salaried workers' households to 367,410 yen, inching up 0.6 percent from the year before.

As for this year's performance from January through September, Japan's overall household spending averaged 326,816 yen, falling an inflation-adjusted 1.1 percent from the same period in 1992. The EPA attributed the decline to a decrease of spending on various services, as well as the bad summer weather.

MITI Reports Drop in Commercial Sales*OW2211115593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1109 GMT
22 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 22 KYODO—Commercial sales in the July-September period this year fell 4.1 percent from a year earlier to 172.01 trillion yen, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Monday [22 November]. It was the seventh straight quarterly year-on-year fall, a record since the ministry began taking such data in 1953.

Of the total, wholesale sales amounted to 138.53 trillion yen, down 4.1 percent, due to sluggish demand and falling prices of materials, the ministry said.

Retail sales dropped 3.7 percent to 33.48 trillion yen as consumers tightened their purse strings and the summer was cool and wet, it said.

'Difficulties' Reported Finding Women Advisers

*OW1911085393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT
19 Nov 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 KYODO—The coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa faces difficulties to meet its 15 percent target for female representation on advisory councils by 1995, the Prime Minister's Office said Friday [19 November]. As of September, women accounted for 481, or 10.7 percent, of the 4,509 seats on advisory councils that make policy recommendations to the government, the office said.

The proportion was up slightly from 10.4 percent in March, the last time the twice-yearly survey was conducted. Officials said the government is having difficulties recruiting women for the 201 councils because private groups that recommend personnel have named few females for the positions.

Before taking office, Hosokawa pledged to promote women as candidates for his Japan New Party. He tapped three women to join his cabinet, the highest number ever.

North Korea

Official Urges U.S. Response on Package Deal

*SK2211104893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020
GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Om Chang-pom, director general of the Federation of Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan, in his statement on November 18 urged the U.S. side to immediately respond to the DPRK's formula of package solution to practically settle the nuclear problem, instead of seeking a political aim to stifle the DPRK, according to a KNS [Korea News Service] report from Tokyo.

"The nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula has been caused by the United States, and the 'suspicion of nuclear development', by the DPRK is a plot of imperialist reactionaries and some quarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency to isolate and stifle the DPRK," he noted, and said:

"As the DPRK clarified, there is no doubt that if the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks are held and an agreement is reached on the formula of package solution there, a definite prospect will be opened for the settlement of the nuclear problem".

South Said Pushing Nuclear Arms Development

*SK2011043993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421
GMT 20 Nov 93*

["Warmaniacs Hell Bent on Nuclear Arms Development"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities recently announced that they would "abstract plutonium" from nuclear material purchased from Britain in large quantities, to "cope with the North's nuclear development."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says:

This is little different from an open statement that they will push ahead with nuclear arms development in real earnest. So, it cannot be overlooked.

The analyst further says:

The South Korean rulers' clamouring about the "suspicion of the North's nuclear development" and "its nuclear threat" is nothing but a sophism for veiling their ugly color. They who have already turned South Korea into the biggest nuclear forward base in the Far East where more than 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons were deployed are now trying hard to make nuclear weapons by themselves, which may plunge the nation into a nuclear holocaust.

Our nation will never pardon the South Korean rulers who are seeking to do harm to fellow countrymen and bring a disaster of nuclear war to the territory and the people in league with outside forces.

The South Korean authorities would be well advised to be mindful that their nuclear arms development will invite disgrace and self-destruction.

Britain must not join in the criminal nuclear arms development by offering plutonium to South Korea but do things favorable to peace and peaceful reunification of Korea.

Daily Criticizes Alet Order, Military Exercises

*SK2111082093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809
GMT 21 Nov 93*

["They Must Not Act Rashly"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—We seriously warn once again the South Korean bellicose elements not to act rashly, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst says:

Some time ago, the South Korean "defence minister," Kwon Yong-hae, groundlessly slandered the North, saying the "military movement of the North is ill-boding" and stressed the need to make "full preparations."

As a matter of fact, it is the South Korean puppets who make very ill-boding military movements.

The South Korean ruling forces are staging Eagle 93 nuclear war maneuvers and Hwarang war exercise after putting the entire puppet Armed Forces on "emergency alert." No one can vouch that this war game held with

4.5 million forces and latest-type lethal weapons would not develop into a real war against the North any moment.

This being the situation, the South Korean authorities are trying to brand others as "provocateurs." How brazen they are.

Facts clearly show the South Korean authorities are not "civilian" at all but they are fascist warmaniacs and seek a way out in confrontation and war.

If the South Korean puppets provoke a war against us, we will punish them with a thousand-fold retaliation.

SKNDF Condemns South's 'Emergency Alert'

*SK1911150893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front (SKNDF) (Hanminjon) released a statement on November 17 in connection with the fact that the puppet Defence Ministry ordered the whole puppet army on an "emergency alert," radio Voice of National Salvation reported.

The statement said:

"This fully shows how the Kim Yong-sam group antagonizes the North and, at the same time, fully reveals again that the political stability of the 'civilian government' on its lips is so fragile and unsettled that it may not be maintained for ten days when Kim Yong-sam is away from South Korea.

"The proclamation of the 'emergency alert posture' is a revelation of the uneasiness of Kim Yong-sam who is trembling with fear for a possible coup by the 'Fifth and Sixth Republic' forces within power with ever growing crack. It is also a desperate effort to keep his master, the United States, from bringing DPRK-U.S. talks to success, leaving him aside."

The statement further said:

"Though the Kim Yong-sam group may save itself now by declaring an 'emergency alert posture,' it will not be able to prop itself up in its waning days, forsaken by the people.

"Even though it added a 'top emergency alert order' to the 'emergency alert posture,' Hanminjon and the people will vigorously advance toward independence, democracy and reunification without vacillation."

Nuclear Warfare Exercise in South Cited

*SK2211002293 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2214 GMT 21 Nov 93*

[Text] According to a radio report from Seoul on 20 November, a chemical, biological, and nuclear warfare [hwasangbangjon] exercise has been conducted at the

Sonbong unit of the puppet army. This happened at a time when the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are fiercely conducting the adventurous Foal Eagle-93 and Hwarang war exercises.

The war exercise was conducted as a part of the Foal Eagle-93 exercise under the cloak of the so-called exercise to remove chemical, biological, and nuclear contamination. It was also intended to possess an actual countermeasure capability under the chemical, biological, and nuclear warfare.

While frantically conducting the nuclear war exercise with the U.S. imperialists, the South Korean puppets are going to bring disaster, such as a nuclear war, on the heads of fellow countrymen, by actively conducting the chemical, biological, and nuclear warfare exercise.

ROK Lawmaker Cited on Security Planning Board

*SK1911151193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—Yi Pu-yong, a "National assemblyman" from the South Korean opposition Democratic Party, on November 16 urged that the "Security Planning Board" (SPB) should be excluded from the North-South dialogue, a Seoul-based radio report said.

Citing instances to expose the high-handed, arbitrary practices of the "SPB" in the matter of dialogue, the South Korean lawmaker stressed that the "SPB" must not be allowed to orchestrate the North-South dialogue any longer.

ROK Farmers' Demand for Higher Prices Noted

*SK1911235193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—South Korean people demanded the authorities raise autumn grain purchasing prices, according to a radio report from Seoul.

An estimated 2,000 peasants affiliated with the council of heirs to peasants and fishermen held a rally on November 16 and strongly urged the authorities to unconditionally raise the autumn grain purchasing prices more than 16 percent and enact a special act on compensations for damages from cold weather.

The authorities announced that the purchasing prices would be raised 3 percent although the peasants could not recover even the production cost due to unusual poor crops. The peasants said this was as good as telling them to give up rice farming.

The National Federation of Peasant Associations (Chon-nong) in a statement on the same day warned that they would launch into a powerful mass protest in case the

authorities refused to accept their demand for a more than 16 percent raise of the autumn grain purchasing prices.

The Democratic Party in its statement referred to the meagre 3 percent price hike overture of Kim Yong-sam's "regime" and the "Democratic Liberal Party" as an act of sacrificing the peasants.

Amnesty International Cited on ROK Violations

SK1911234993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—Robert, a fellow of the Amnesty International, on a visit to Seoul, told reporters on November 16 that in South Korea instances of violations of people's basic rights were unabated even under the present "regime" alleged to be "civilian", a Seoul-based radio report said.

He said the continued existence of the "National Security Law" and the "Security Planning Board" and the absence of liquidation of the past are big stumbling blocks in the solution of the human rights issue.

He called for the release of prisoners of conscience.

Radio Reports Envoy's Comments on Nuclear Issue

SK2111103893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] A lecture meeting concerning the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula was held at the DPRK Embassy in Russia on 16 November.

Placed at the front of the meeting place was a portrait of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. Invited to the lecture meeting were figures from Russian political, social, academic, and journalist circles, such as (Vladimir Dostikov), chairman of the Central Council of the Russian Association for Friendship and Cultural Cooperation with the DPRK; (Stepan Yasnikov), deputy director of the Far East Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences; (Gennadiy Chuprin), deputy director of the Oriental Studies Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences; (German Shumolaninov), vice chairman of the Committee for Peace and [word indistinct] in Russia; and (Nikolay Mishin), president of Russian (Palia) Publishing Company. Participating in the lecture meeting were functionaries of the DPRK Embassy in Russia.

Ambassador Son Song-pil spoke at the lecture meeting. He referred to the very unusual moves blurring prospects for the resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, and noted that the Western countries, including the United States, and some circles of the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], alleging that there is an imminent danger of the continuity of the nuclear safeguards in our country being suspended, are raving that unless our country permits

overall inspections [chonmyon sachal] by the IAEA soon, so-called UN sanctions should be taken.

He said: Not to be overlooked particularly is the fact that they are spreading the rumor that our country is playing hide-and-seek in order to produce nuclear weapons and that our country is using the nuclear issue for some selfish purpose. As has been known, our country and the United States issued a joint statement and began talks based on the statement. Our country and the United States have the main responsibility and right for the resolution of the nuclear issue. Our country has taken specific and practical steps pursuant to the joint statement between us and the United States. We tentatively suspended the validity of the decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. We held contacts with the IAEA, and began the North-South talks. We banned all transfer [yudong] of nuclear materials in the territory of the Republic. In particular, to dispel completely the suspicion of nuclear development in our country, we have taken a bold step to convert graphite moderated reactors into water moderated reactors. Our sincere efforts, however, did not meet with a practical response from the U.S. side.

Ambassador Son Song-pil noted that the United States led the DPRK-U.S. talks to a stalemate [chomi hoe-damul kyochak sangtae ppatturigo] and had the general meeting of the IAEA and the UN General Assembly adopt a resolution against us. He continued: For five months since the initiation of the DPRK-U.S. talks, we have made unilateral efforts to implement what was agreed upon at the talks, but the United States would not move [umjigiji anatta]. The spirit of agreement of the talks was ignored by the United States. This is the fundamental cause of the difficulty for the resolution of the nuclear issue.

Ambassador Son Song-pil used specific facts to prove the falsity of the claim that the continuity of nuclear safeguards is in danger of being destroyed. He noted that so long as the United States does not abandon the maneuvers to crush [apsal] our Republic, we cannot fully implement the nuclear safeguards accord. He said that the pressure and coercion [wihyop] by the United States and the West are of no help for the resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

He noted: Pressure will not work on us. As for us, there will never be an instance in which we do not do what we should do or do what we should not do because of pressure and coercion. If they pressure or coerce us, we will take a self-defensive measure [chawijok chochi]. We are capable of that. Only through dialogue and negotiation can the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula be resolved.

He noted that we have proposed a package solution to the nuclear issue to the United States. He said that if a package solution is agreed to in the DPRK-U.S. talks, there will be a firm prospect for the resolution of the nuclear issue. He said that if the United States takes

practical steps to abandon the nuclear threat and hostile policy toward us according to the method of the package solution, and if we, on our part, fully implement the safeguards accord as a participant in the treaty, the nuclear issue will be completely resolved. He said that the question is whether the United States will respond to our proposal and abandon the hostile policy toward our country. He concluded by stressing that we will watch closely the actions of the United States and the IAEA.

Russian, Japanese Nuclear Waste Dumping Decried

*SK2011112093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—The DPRK State Environmental Committee issued a statement today denouncing Russia and Japan for continuously dumping nuclear waste massively to destroy the sea environment and seriously threaten the existence of the population in the littoral areas.

The statement urged that the incumbent authorities of Japan and Russia should promptly stop the criminal acts of dumping nuclear waste into the East Sea of Korea and the Pacific Ocean and, at the same time, remove the already dumped nuclear waste from the sea without delay and punish those responsible for it.

"If Russia and Japan continue with their illegal nuclear waste dumping in disregard of the aspiration of mankind for environmental protection of the earth, they would be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom," warned the statement.

Recalling that Russia and Japan have annually dumped a large amount of nuclear waste into the East Sea of Korea and the Pacific Ocean illegally, it says:

"Such acts of Russia and Japan are a breach of the international conventions on protection and conservation of the sea environment; they are criminal acts of polluting and wrecking the sea environment and jeopardizing the lives of the population in the littoral countries.

"To protect and conserve the sea environment is a unanimous demand of the peoples in the littoral areas. And it is already stipulated under international agreement that radioactive waste, even less activated one, can never be dumped into the sea.

"Moreover, Russia and Japan, as signatories to the London conventions, are obligated to strive for the prevention of sea pollution.

"This notwithstanding, they are not only vyingly dumping nuclear waste but also releasing at random even liquid radioactive pollutants. We cannot but take a serious note of it.

"Such acts of Russia and Japan destroying the earth environment now are causing deep apprehensions and

protests from the peoples in Asia and the rest of the world and environmental organizations.

"It is ridiculous, indeed, of Russia and Japan to vociferously urge us to 'comply with the Nuclear Safeguards Agreement', while openly violating the international conventions, an act reminding us of a thief crying 'stop thief!'

"Japan must not try impudently to cover up its wicked acts in quickening its pace toward nuclear armament by taking issue with others, but give up the nuclear armament. And Russia, too, had better control its own nuclear weapons properly, instead of joining force in slinging mud at other countries, only bringing disgrace on itself.

"The DPRK State Environmental Committee expresses the hope that the international organisations concerned and the governments of all countries will pay due attention to it and exercise their influence so that nobody ever can destroy the ecological environment of the East Sea of Korea and the Pacific Ocean."

Paper Demands Japan Adopt New Name for Sea

*SK1911234393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[“Name of ‘Sea of Japan’ Must Be Changed Into ‘East Sea of Korea’”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—Japan, before facing greater condemnations in the future, must change the name of “Sea of Japan” into “East Sea of Korea” and make a sincere response to the call for past liquidation, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article Thursday.

The paper notes that it is another distortion of history by Japanese imperialism in the past and a product of its colonial domination that the East Sea of Korea was marked as “Sea of Japan”.

The article cites materials to prove the unjustifiable act in naming the sea as “Sea of Japan”.

It says:

The sea between Korea and Japan was called and written as “Sea of Korea” or “East Sea of Korea”, “Eastern Sea” or “East Sea” from olden times.

It is clearly borne out by many documents and charts including the tombstone of King Kwanggaeto built in 414, “chronicles of the three dynasties” in 1145, “history of the three dynasties” in the thirteenth century, “history of Koryo” in 1452, and the geographical book of the “records of King Sejong” in 1454.

As shown in the “Asian map” of Katsuragawa made in 1794, the revised edition of “world map” of Takabashi

in 1810 and the "new world map" of Kisaku in 1847, the Japanese themselves had marked the sea as "Sea of Korea".

Many foreigners also had marked the sea as such. It could be seen in the "map of Asia" of Godinho De Heredia made in 1615, a map by British R. Dudley in 1647 and the "map of Japan islands" by Tavernier in 1679 and other foreigners' maps published later.

From the topographical point of view of sea naming, it is common knowledge that seas were named after the continents and peninsulas bordering on them, not the islands around some countries.

And also in view of the origin of its geographical designation, many world's cartographers marked the East Sea of Korea as "Sea of Korea" since the 18th century.

Japan began to mark the Eastern Sea of Korea as "Sea of Japan" in the 19th century around the Russo-Japanese war and the name of "Sea of Japan" was predominant after 1910.

Saying Japan's talk about an international "recognition" of the name of "Sea of Japan" is a sheer twaddle and lie, the article notes that the name "Sea of Japan" has never been recognized in any international meeting or by any international conventions.

Meeting to Support Reunification Held in Japan

*SK2011152393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—The 12th national meeting of the movement for support to Korea's reunification was held in Oita Prefecture, Japan, on November 15.

The meeting, divided into three sections, discussed problems such as the colonial domination over Korea and forcible drafting of Koreans by the Japanese imperialists, "comfort women for the Army", the normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations and the solidarity movement for support to Korea's reunification.

Hiroshi Wakabayashi, secretary general of the Japan Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, in a keynote report at the meeting, referred to the tensions increasing on the Korean peninsula this year, and expressed support and solidarity with the Korean people in their efforts to realize national reunification.

An appeal and a letter to the Korean people were adopted at the meeting.

On the same day, a "request on the promotion of normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations and the proper postwar settlement" addressed to the prime minister of Japan and a "petition requesting a Diet resolution on apology for the responsibility for the war and the setup of an ad hoc committee for investigation

into the issue of war responsibility" addressed to the speakers of both houses of Japan were published in the name of the participants in the meeting.

The request to the Japanese prime minister said the Japanese Government must effect a fundamental switch-over in its former Korea policy hostile to the DPRK and support an independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

It urged the government to respect the Japan-Korea three-party declaration, promote an early normalization of Japan-DPRK relations and respect human rights, national rights and legal status of Korean residents in Japan.

The petition called for establishing an ad hoc committee for an investigation into the issue of the war responsibility and manifesting apology to all those people in the Asian-Pacific region who had been victimized by Japan and their families.

'Home-Visiting' Korean Students in Japan Arrive

*SK1911152193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1059
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—A home-visiting group of Korean students in Japan arrived in Wonsan on November 19 by the ship "Mangyongbong-92".

Friendship Weightlifting Contest With Shanghai

*SK1911044593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—A friendship contest between the Pyongyang municipal weightlifting team of Korea and the Shanghai municipal weightlifting team of China took place at the weightlifting gymnasium here Thursday.

In the contest strongmen of the two countries demonstrated the high sports techniques they had refined through day-to-day training, deepening the feelings of friendship.

Communist Party of Germany Delegation Arrives

*SK1911152293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Communist Party of Germany led by Co-chairman Rolf Priemer arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Pak Kyong-son, vice-director of a department of the C.C., WPK.

WPK Hosts Reception

*SK2011045593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] gave a reception Friday evening for the visiting delegation of the Communist Party of Germany [CPG] headed by Co-Chairman Rolf Priemer.

Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the C.C., WPK, said in his speech:

"We highly estimate the fact that the CPG has directed persistent efforts to strengthening itself organizationally and ideologically, adhering to the revolutionary principle, undaunted by the harsh suppression by the rightwing reactionary forces, and at the same time, has actively struggled to defend the democratic rights and vital interests of the working class and other labouring masses."

"We express deep thanks to your party and you for the various solidarity activities supporting the Korean people's cause of socialism and national reunification," he noted, and stressed:

"We are pleased that we have such class brothers as you in Europe and will make strenuous efforts for the development of the friendly relations with your party."

In his speech Rolf Priemer elaborated on the struggle of the WPK founded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Noting that the gains of socialism had been steadfastly defended in Korea by the struggle of the WPK and the people, he said they were glad of this.

"Herein lies a new expectation and hope for rebuilding the socialist forces and making a new start in other countries," he added.

Party Delegations Hold Talks

*SK2011112593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—Talks were held here Saturday between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Communist Party of Germany [CPG].

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Pak Kyong-son, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side was the delegation headed by CPG Co-Chairman Rolf Priemer.

The sides informed each other of their parties' activities and exchanged views on developing the friendly relations between the two parties and on a series of questions of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Zimbabwean Party Delegation Continues Visit**Meets Yi In-mo**

*SK2111091393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803
GMT 21 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front led by Stephen Nkomo, Politburo member and secretary of its Central Committee, met Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, Saturday.

The head of the delegation said Yi In-mo could uphold his principles, not yielding to all manner of inhuman tortures and atrocities by the enemy in prison for 34 years because he had the unshakable revolutionary will and faith. This is a great encouragement to them, he added.

He noted that touring Panmunjom during its stay, the delegation came to know about the unspeakable misfortunes the Korean people are suffering due to the division of the country by outside forces.

Korea, wisely guided by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, is sure to be reunified, he declared.

Yi In-mo recalled that he has regained his life under the loving care and solicitude of the great leader.

President Receives Delegation

*SK2211112093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001
GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front led by Stephen Nkomo, Politburo member and secretary of its Central Committee.

Present on the occasion were secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Hwang Chang-yop and vice-director of a department of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK Kim Yang-kon.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Greets Lebanese Counterpart

*SK2111092593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0841
GMT 21 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings today to President Ilyas al-Hirawi on the 50th anniversary of the independence of Lebanon.

The message sincerely wished the Lebanese president and people great success in the work to defend national dignity and rebuild the country.

Papers Mark Lebanon's Independence Anniversary

*SK2211111993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030
GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate articles to the 50th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Lebanon.

NODONG SINMUN in a signed article says that the Lebanese people have striven to defend the independence of the country and achieve national unity and stability.

It goes on:

The Lebanese Government is making all efforts to solve the problem of Southern Lebanon in conformity with the interests and desire of the Lebanese people.

The peoples of Korea and Lebanon established the friendly relations and have supported and cooperated with each other in the efforts to build a new life.

The Korean people send friendly greetings to the Lebanese people on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the independence of Lebanon and wish them success in the work to rebuild the country.

The Korean people express the belief that the bonds of friendship between the peoples of Korea and Lebanon will grow stronger, stresses MINJU CHOSON in a signed article.

Foreign Minister Greet's Sierra Leone Official

*SK2111085793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0800
GMT 21 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Aboos Bundu upon his appointment as state secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations existing between the two countries would continue to develop favorably, Kim Yong-nam in the message wished his Sierra Leonean counterpart success in his work.

Nepalese Party Leaders Praise Kim Chong-il

*SK2011105993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—Nepalese party leaders who had visited Korea highly praised the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Madhav Kumar Nepal, general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], Communist Party of Nepal

(United Marxism-Leninism), said the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a genuine people's leader who is possessed of rare wisdom, tested leadership ability and noble virtues. "He has performed undying exploits by wisely leading the Korean revolution and construction," Nepal added.

Noting that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave a scientific exposition of the fundamental cause of the frustration of socialism in some countries, and comprehensively expounded the true path of socialism and theory of revolutionary party building, he said the dear leader is an illustrious leader with clairvoyance.

Narayan Man Bijukche, chairman of the Nepal Workers and Peasants Party, noting that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il always finds himself among the people and sets their strength and wisdom in-motion, believing in them, in leading the revolution and construction, said he knew clearly that herein lay the secret of the great feats the dear leader has performed for the people.

Saying that the dear leader's is politics of love and trust in the people, all-embracing magnanimous politics, the chairman stressed that Korea under his wise guidance has turned into an ideal society of mankind.

Delegation Returns From Thailand, Bangladesh

*SK2011112893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—The DPRK Government cultural delegation headed by Chang Chol, vice-premier and minister of Culture and Art, returned home today after visiting Thailand and Bangladesh. It was met at the airport by Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the State Education Commission; Ho Paek-san, first vice-minister of Culture and Art, and other officials concerned.

Irish Party Leader Supports Reunification

*SK2011110193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—Pat Quearney, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Ireland, met with a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea on November 9 when he said the Korean people under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were firmly defending the banner of socialism even under the complicated situation.

He said he fully supports the Korean people's vigorous struggle for national reunification.

He referred to the U.S. President's outburst against Korea as a vivid revelation of the position of the United States now driven to a tight corner.

Reportage on 21 Nov Municipal Elections**Final Preparations Reported**

*SK1911044493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—Preparations for the election of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies slated for November 21 were finished nationwide as of November 18.

The provincial (municipal), city and county (district) constituencies (sub constituencies) and election committees at all levels involving officials of the party and power organs, economic bodies and public and cooperative organisations were formed following the organisation of the Central Election Committee, and they briskly conducted organisational work and political propaganda to ensure elections successfully.

All the election committees made public the lists of voters and those who were nominated candidates at the electors meetings according to the law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the elections of deputies to the people's assemblies at all levels and the enforcement regulations of the election law, and completed all the preparations including the arrangement of polling booths, voting papers and ballot boxes.

All the voters across the country now are waiting for the day of elections with the single determination to add shine to the Korean-style socialism centred on the masses by greeting the forthcoming elections with a high degree of political enthusiasm and brilliant successes in labor and voting for the candidates.

Editorial Previews Elections

*SK2111124593 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 21 Nov 93*

[NODONG SINMUN 21 November editorial: "Let Us All Consolidate Our Revolutionary Sovereignty as Firm as a Rock by Participating Unanimously in the Elections of Deputies to the Provincial and Municipal People's Assemblies"]

[Text] Today, elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies will be held in our country. On this great event, the whole country is seething with great revolutionary zeal in an upsurged political environment.

Today's elections are very meaningful because they are to be held at a very important time in the history of the development of our revolutionary people's power.

Now our people have been achieving great victories and success in the struggle to protect, defend, and glorify socialism of our own style under the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the creator of our people's power.

They are creating new miracles and feats in all fields of socialist construction, while smashing every vicious antirepublic and antisocialist maneuver by imperialists and reactionaries aimed at isolating and ruining [miasal] our revolution. As the elections are to be held at this blessed time, they are imbued with great significance.

The elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies will be an important momentum for consolidating the revolutionary sovereignty of our workers and farmers as firm as a rock and for accelerating the advance of our revolution, in accordance with the demand of developing realities.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il noted: In order to vigorously advance the socialist cause, the people's power should be strengthened in every way.

The people's power is a representative of popular masses' interest and right to independence and a powerful weapon for socialist construction. The constant strengthening of the people's power is important in guaranteeing the consolidation and development of our valuable revolutionary gains that have been achieved through a long arduous struggle and in guaranteeing the succession and consummation of the chuche socialist cause.

Our people's power established by the great leader has entered a new stage for its development under the dear comrade leader's wise leadership.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il clearly elucidated principles and methods to strengthen the people's power in accordance with the developing realities and immense tasks we face, and he is energetically leading our people's power to smoothly carry out its function of unitary leadership [tongilchok chido] for the society.

Thanks to this powerful revolutionary power, which has constantly been consolidated and developed under the leadership of the party and the leader, our country's political and economic basis has firmly been strengthened and the people's independent and creative life has been fully blooming.

Realities show that our people's power upholding the great leader [yongdoja] is the most people-oriented power that is full of vitality.

We should consolidate even further our people's power as a powerful political organization that actively contributes to completely embodying the leadership of the party and the leader [suryong] and to modelling the entire society on the chuche idea.

Various power organs, including provincial and municipal people's assemblies, occupy important posts in our country's political power organization system.

Candidates for the elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies are genuine representatives of workers, farmers, soldiers, and intellectuals, who are armed firmly with our party's chuche idea and

are devotedly struggling for strengthening and developing the people's power and for socialist construction.

They take the leader of the masses in realizing the party's lofty intent at the head of the masses, with sheer desire to glorify endlessly the chuche socialist fatherland upholding the dear comrade leader's leadership.

If power organs are managed by these genuine, faithful retainers who are loyal and filial to the party and the leader and who enjoy the masses' great confidence, the people-oriented and revolutionary characteristic of our people's power will become more evident and its function and role will be strengthened in every way.

The elections of deputies to provinces and municipalities are also important political works to vigorously demonstrate to the world the might of the single-hearted unity of our revolutionary ranks centering on the leader [yongdoja].

Our single-hearted unity, in which the entire party, all people, and the entire Army are firmly united around the great leader [widaehan yongdoja], is becoming the source of invincible power of our revolution. The (?great ranks) of our single-hearted unity has been displayed more highly in a struggle to smash the imperialists' new war provocation maneuvers and to glorify the dignity of socialism.

Because of the single-hearted unity firmly centering on the great leader [widaehan yongdoja], we have honorably safeguarded the socialist achievements even during the semi-war state. Also, we have effected a new revolutionary upsurge everywhere, even in a day of all-out march in which we mark the 40th anniversary of victory of the fatherland liberation war.

We cannot even think of any victories and successes that are being made in the revolution and construction—the prestige and dignity of our fatherland, which are being raised each passing day—and the bright future of our nation apart from the single-hearted unity, a driving force of socialism.

Today for our people, there is no honorable and responsible work other than that of endlessly glorifying the great ethos of the single-hearted unity centering on the great leader [widaehan yongdoja].

With a burning feeling of loyalty to the party and the leader [suryong], our people casted aye votes whenever elections of each sovereign organization were held in the past. As a result, they have shown to the world that our single-hearted unity is never an empty word. These are proud realities that can only be opened in our country where all people breathe with the party, speak as demanded by the party, and walk in concert with the party.

During this election, our people will firmly prove once again the strength and vitality of the single-hearted unity of our revolutionary ranks—who are vigorously

advancing only along the party by upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as a center of the leadership and the unity.

The election of deputies to the provinces and municipalities is very significant for fully displaying the superiority and invincibility of the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style and for vigorously accelerating the all-out march of the socialism of our own style.

The socialism built by our people is the most superior socialism in which the popular masses become its master and everything serves the people. In our country all working people, as masters of the country, are actively participating in the state management. Also, they have the right to vote and are eligible for election regardless of sex, occupation, assets, and degree of knowledge. All people are exercising their sovereign right through the people's government organizations at each level and are freely enjoying their true right and freedom.

Either in capitalist countries or in the countries where socialism collapsed, the democratic right of the popular masses are being infringed upon and political instability is always rampant.

The imperialists and betrayers of socialism are loudly babbling as if capitalism guarantees the equality of all people and the freedom of individuals, while harshly slandering and libeling socialism, but this is actually a sophistry that cannot be realized.

The democracy that the imperialists and reactionaries are babbling about is a bogus democracy. Also, the equality and freedom that they are talking about are nothing but a disguise intended to hide the antipeople nature of the capitalist system.

During the election, our people will disclose in detail the falsity of antisocialist vile propaganda by the imperialists and prove more firmly the absolute superiority of socialism over capitalism.

We are faced today with a heavy task of fully displaying the superiority of our own style by further deepening the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—in all fields of socialist construction and by constantly raising the people's standard of living.

Today's elections will serve as an important momentum to give a new impetus to the struggle to create the speed of the general onward march of socialism of our own style while effecting new upsurges in revolution and construction by enhancing our revolutionary power's function.

All voters should fulfill their sacred duty as the people of the dignified and proud Republic by actively participating in the elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies.

We should, above all, have firmer resolution to fervently love, protect, and defend to the last our system and our revolutionary power. Our people enjoy their worthy lives

and happiness as standard-bearers of the people's power and as masters of the country and of the society.

If we did not have our invincible party and socialist power, we would not be able either to defend firmly our national independence in the course of the arduous revolutionary struggle or to build a socialist paradise, an object of world people's envy, on this land.

With the people's power, which is being strengthened and developed, all the people, including workers, farmer, soldiers, and intellectuals, foresee the bright future when they will achieve the brilliant victory of the chuche socialist cause and will enjoy their more independent and creative lives.

All party members and working people should fully demonstrate, through the elections, the burning patriotism and revolutionary will of our people, who consider our revolutionary sovereignty to be the most valuable revolutionary gain that cannot be bartered for anything else and defend it to the last under any circumstances.

All voters should participate in the elections with firm determination to faithfully uphold the leadership of the party and the leader and to glorify leadership achievements of the party and the leader.

We cannot guess how great efforts the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il have made for strengthening and developing our people's power and for our people's happy life while leading the chuche socialist cause for a long time.

An aye vote to be cast by each of us will carry our warm loyalty and filial devotion to repay to the last the grateful benevolence of the party and the leader and to add luster to the leadership chain [yongdojok kori].

While seeing today's realities in which socialism is ever victorious, we should bear more deeply in our minds the great pride that our party and our socialism is best and the firm faith that we can neither have the fatherland nor future without the leader [yongdoja].

We also should make new progress in the struggle to realize the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's grand plan of socialist construction and to glorify leadership achievements of the party and the leader in their own sectors, with today's elections as a momentum.

All party members and working people should vigorously struggle to fulfill this year's plan by greatly displaying their revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude so that they can advance more greatly the superiority of socialism of our country.

Radio Notes Election Progress

SK2111060493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] The elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies are under way throughout the country. As of noon on 21 November [0300 GMT],

85.7 percent of all voters on the voters' list participated in the elections. The voting of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies began at 1000 [0100 GMT] on 21 November simultaneously throughout the country.

The elections are being held in each electoral district in accordance with the law on elections of deputies to various people's assemblies of the DPRK and provisions on implementing the law.

According to Central Election Committee data, 85.7 percent of all voters on the voters list have cast their votes as of noon.

Voters throughout the country are participating in the elections with the great pride in fully exercising their political right as masters of the country and sovereignty and with the pleasure to vote for the people's faithful servants who are boundlessly loyal to the party and the leader and to elect them deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies.

Voting continues.

KCNA on Election Commencement

SK2111083793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0831 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—Elections of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies began at 10:00 simultaneously nationwide today in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Voting is taking place at the subconstituencies in accordance with the law on the elections of deputies to the people's assemblies at all levels of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the detailed rules on the enforcement of the law.

According to data available at the Central Election Committee, 85.7 percent of the entire electors registered in the voters lists had cast their ballots by noon.

Now all the electors across the country are taking part in voting with high pride in fully exercising their political rights as masters of the country and power and joy at electing faithful servants of the people unfailingly loyal to the party and the leader deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies.

Voting continues.

Kim Il-song, Son Cast Votes

SK2111071593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0600 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has participated in the elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies along with the leading cadres of the party and the state.

On 21 November, Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, cast a vote at the election place

of the seven constituencies for the election of deputy to the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly along with the leading cadres of the party and the state.

The voters of the area who have a great honor to participate in the election by upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song are full of boundless excitement and joy. All the faces of the voters—who are dancing and singing a song on the occasion of the festival day in which the true revolutionary sovereignty of our people is fortified as firm as rock—are full of a feeling of boundless admiration and gratitude for the party and the leader that have led them to enjoy their independent and creative life.

At 10 AM [0100 GMT], Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, arrived in the election place. Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, arrived in the election place. Also, Comrade O Chin-u, first vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and minister of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces; Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the Administration Council; Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice president; Comrade Choe Kwang, vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army; Comrade Kye Ung-tae and Comrade Han Song-yong, members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Kim Chung-nin, member of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; and Comrade Kim Kwang-chin, member of the DPRK National Defense Commission and vice marshal of the Korean People's Army arrived in the election place.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was received by Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee, as well as chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; and Comrade Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Central Election Committee, member of the WPK Central Committee, and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received a ballot from the chairman of the Election Committee of his electoral district and voted for Comrade Choe Hui-chong, candidate for deputy of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly, who is a labor hero and an associate doctor as well as chief of the rapid-cooling device casting laboratory of the Machinery Engineering Institute of the Academy of Sciences.

Then accompanying party and state leaders cast their votes. Voters, who participated in the meaningful elections with the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, are filled with fervent determination to protect and defend the popular mass-oriented socialism of our country and to glorify its superiority and to uphold the great party's leadership by further strengthening and developing the people's power—genuine protector of our people's right to sovereignty as well as a powerful weapon for socialist, communist construction—and by accelerating the victorious advance of the chuche revolutionary cause under the banner of the three revolutions.

KCNA Reports Kim Il-song Voting

SK2111090093 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0840
GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang November 21 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song, accompanied by party and state leading cadres, cast his ballot at a voting booth of constituency No. 7 for the elections of deputies to the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly today.

Greatly honored with the participation in the elections with President Kim Il-song, the voters there felt boundless emotion and joy.

President Kim Il-song arrived at the voting booth at 10:00.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, also arrived at the booth.

Also coming out to the booth were O Chin-u, first vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and minister of People's Armed Forces; Kang Song-san, Politburo member of the C.C., [Central Committee] the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the Administration Council; Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK and vice-president; Choe Kwang, vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army; Kye Ung-tae and Han Song-yong, Politburo members and secretaries of the C.C., the WPK; Choe Tae-pok, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the C.C., the WPK; Kim Chung-nin, member and secretary of the C.C., the WPK; and Vice Marshal of the KPA Kim Kwang-chin, member of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

President Kim Il-song was met on the spot by So Yun-sok, Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK, chief secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee, and Yang Hyong-sop, member of the C.C., the WPK, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly and chairman of the Central Election Committee.

President Kim Il-song received a ballot from the chairman of the Election Committee of the constituency and voted for labour hero and associate Dr. Choe Hui-chong, chief of the rapid cold casting research room of the Machine Engineering Institute of the Academy of Sciences and candidate for a deputy to the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly.

Then the leading party and state cadres accompanying him cast their ballots.

The voters who participated in the significant elections with President Kim Il-song were filled with the unshakable determination to further strengthen the people's government, a genuine champion of the independent rights of our people and a powerful weapon in the building of socialism and communism, dynamically promote the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of chuche under the banner of the three revolutions, defend Korean socialism centred on the popular masses and bring its advantages into full play, upholding the leadership of the great party with a loyal heart.

Senior Officials Participate

*SK2111122093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1107
GMT 21 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang November 21 (KCNA)—Senior party and state officials went to polling stations throughout the country to participate together with voters in the election of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies today.

Pak Song-chol, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president, voted at sub-constituency No. 73 of constituency No. 150 of South Pyongan Province for Yi In-hwa, director of the Kaechon district coal mining complex and candidate for a deputy to the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly.

Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK, and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Kim Yong-nam, voted at sub-constituency No. 65 of constituency No. 284 of Pyongyang for Song Chun-sik, head of the equipment work team of the Hyoksin pit of the Kangdong coal mine and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly.

Politburo member and Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Chon Pyong-ho voted at sub-constituency No. 7 of constituency No. 31 of Pyongyang for Pae Chae-in, director of the Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1 and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly.

Alternate Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK Kim Chol-man voted at sub-constituency No. 77 of constituency No. 285 of Pyongyang for worker Yi Kyong-sok, candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly; alternate Politburo member and Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Kim Yong-son voted at sub-constituency No. 129 of constituency No. 180 of Nampo

for Yi Yong-hwa, head of a sub-work team of the work team No. 5 of the Taesong cooperative farm in Kangso district and candidate for a deputy to the Nampo Municipal People's Assembly; alternate Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK, and Vice-Premier Choe Yong-nim, voted at sub-constituency No. 5 of constituency No. 196 of Nampo for labor hero Kim Ik-su, a mill worker of the blooming mill shop of the Chollima steel complex and candidate for a deputy to the Nampo Municipal People's Assembly; alternate Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK and Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam voted at sub-constituency No. 24 of constituency No. 249 of South Pyongan Province for Chi Wol-hyang, a worker of the shop No. 1 of the Pukchang thermal power complex and candidate for a deputy to the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly; alternate Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Kang Hi-won voted at sub-constituency No. 7 of constituency No. 31 of Pyongyang for Pae Chae-in, director of the Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1 and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly; alternate Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK and Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon voted at sub-constituency No. 36 of constituency No. 50 of North Hwanghae Province for Cho Chong-chol, worker of the steel sheet shop of the Hwanghae iron and steel complex and candidate for a deputy to the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Assembly; alternate Politburo member of the Central Committee and chief-secretary of the Chagang Provincial Committee, the WPK and Chairman of the Chagang Provincial People's Committee Yon Hyong-muk voted at sub-constituency No. 58 of constituency No. 17 of Chagang Province for Yim Pong-chun, director of the September textile mill and candidate for a deputy to the Chagang Provincial People's Assembly; Secretary of the C.C., the WPK So Kwan-hi voted at sub-constituency No. 2 of constituency No. 143 of Pyongyang for Yun Sin-pok, a farmer of the Mangyongdae cooperative farm in Mangyongdae district and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly; Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Hwang Chang-yop voted at sub-constituency No. 47 of constituency No. 154 of Nampho municipality for Mun Kwang-il, a worker of the machine tool shop of the Kumsong tractor complex and candidate for a deputy to the Nampo Municipal People's Assembly; Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Kim Ki-nam voted at sub-constituency No. 58 of constituency No. 26 of Pyongyang for Yi Son-kui, a worker of the sheet metal processing shop of the October 5 automation general works and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly; and Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Kim Kuk-tae voted at sub-constituency No. 52 of constituency No. 24 of Pyongyang for Song Yong-ul, a worker of the cable shop of the March 26 factory and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly.

Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Kim Pok-sin voted at sub-constituency No. 49 of constituency No. 75 of Pyongyang for labour heroine Yi Myong-ok, head

of a workshop of the Pyongyang textile combine and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly; Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Kim Chang-chu voted at sub-constituency No. 73 of constituency No. 323 of Pyongyang for General of the Korean People's Army Yi Chang-ho, candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly; Vice-Premier Kim Yun-hyok voted at sub-constituency No. 88 of constituency No. 218 of South Phyongan Province for Kim Sang-kyu, chief engineer of the fire-proof material branch factory of the Sunchon cement complex and candidate for a deputy to the South Phyongan Provincial People's Assembly; Vice-Premier Kim Hwan voted at sub-constituency No. 95 of constituency No. 129 of South Pyongan Province for Yi Sung-chin, director of plant No. 121 and candidate for a deputy to the South Pyongan Provincial People's Assembly; and Vice-Premier Chang Chol voted at sub-constituency No. 84 of constituency No. 167 of Nampo for Hwang Chol-ho, head of the tunnelling workteam of youth pit of the Kangso district coal mining complex and candidate for a deputy to the Nampo Municipal People's Assembly.

Chon Mun-sop, chairman of the State Inspection Commission of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK, voted at sub-constituency No. 150 of constituency No. 38 of North Hwanghae Province for Kim Ki-nam, a tractor driver of the mechanization workteam of the Migok cooperative farm in Sariwon city and candidate for a deputy to the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Assembly; and Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Economic Policy Commission of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK, voted at sub-constituency No. 56 of constituency No. 25 of Pyongyang for labour hero Won Song-sok, head of a workteam of the heat repair and reconstruction workshop of the Pyongyang thermal power complex and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly.

Ryu Mi-yong, chairperson of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, voted at sub-constituency No. 17 of constituency No. 44 of Pyongyang for Yi Ok-nyo, a worker of the Pyongyang trademark printing factory and candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly.

The election held amid the high political enthusiasm of the entire people marks an important occasion in demonstrating the might of the singlehearted unity of the Korean people around the party and the leader and the invincibility of Korean-style socialism centred on the masses and further consolidating the revolutionary government of *chuche*.

KCNA Notes Closure of Polls

SK2111113193 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046*
GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—Elections of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies which began at ten this morning successfully ended

at six p.m. amid a high degree of political consciousness and revolutionary enthusiasm of the entire people.

The voters participated as one in the elections with the pride and consciousness of being the masters of the country and the resolution to consolidate our people's government and defend and exalt Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses.

The elections took place with the subconstituencies as the units which had been organised across the country under the DPRK law on the elections of deputies to the people's assemblies at all levels and the detailed rules on enforcement of the election law.

According to data available at the Central Election Committee, all the voters registered on the lists of voters except those staying in foreign countries and engaged in oceanic work participated in the voting.

Those who could not go to the ballot booths because of old age, illness, etc. cast the ballots into mobile ballot boxes.

Through the elections, the entire voters powerfully demonstrated once again their deep trust in our revolutionary government and the invincible might of our people united in one mind around the party and the leader.

KCNA on Public Mood

SK2211061993 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523*
GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Voters in Korea participated in the election of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies on November 21 amid the surging political enthusiasm.

Polling stations across the country were pervaded with a high degree of revolutionary enthusiasm of the citizens to demonstrate to the world once again through the election the might of our country where the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind.

Voters in all parts of the country cast their ballots for representatives of the people faithful to the party and the revolution, with a steadfast faith and will to carry the revolutionary cause of *chuche*, the cause of socialism, to accomplishment by further consolidating and developing our people's government.

Among them were anti-Japanese fighters, the first generation of our revolution, veterans of the fatherland liberation war, the second generation of the revolution, and the third and fourth generations of the revolution that are exalting the dignity and honor of the nation while smashing the anti-socialist, anti-DPRK manoeuvres of the imperialists and the reactionaries.

Anti-Japanese fighter Pak Chong-sok, after voting at the sub-constituency No. 24 of the constituency No. 35 of Pyongyang said that the revolutionary power which fully

provides our people with a true life and happiness is associated with a noble soul of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs.

Former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army [KPA] Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, voted at the sub-constituency No. 11 of the constituency No.31 of Pyongyang for Pae Chae-in, a candidate for a deputy to the Pyongyang municipal people's assembly. Saying that he could not but think deeply of his ballot that day, Yi In-mo noted that all the people must defend the socialist homeland with their lives, holding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem.

Kim Ung-ho of the State Commission of Science and Technology who voted at the sub-constituency No.24 of the constituency No. 4 of Pyongyang stated that he, coming back from countries where socialism has suffered a setback and capitalism has been revived, keenly realized that it is only socialism that provides people with a cradle of true life as it defends the dignity and honor of people and enables them to fully enjoy an independent and creative life.

To defend and glorify our socialism closely united around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il—this is a firm revolutionary faith and will of our people, he stressed.

Sin Yun-ok, a weaver of the general weaving shop of the Pyongyang textile combine, who participated in the election for the first time resolved to firmly defend and exalt the socialist homeland through generations, preparing herself as a gun and bomb safeguarding the party and the leader just as she swore at the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, with a pride and honor of being a young woman of chuche Korea.

Soldiers of the heroic Korean People's Army and the Korean people's security force also took part in the election, firmly resolved to hold rifles more tightly in the spirit of annihilating the enemy to foil the new war moves of the imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters.

Pak Yong-chol, an officer of the KPA, after casting a ballot for a candidate, said: It is not only our brothers who have made a pledge of faith to become 8 rifles and 8 bombs in defence of comrade supreme commander. Our Army and our people who are ready to answer dialogue with dialogue, war with war will defend with lives the party, the leader and socialist homeland by becoming rifles and bombs if the enemy pounces upon us.

Through the election the working people across the country powerfully demonstrated once again the superiority and invincibility of socialism of our style where the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind.

Committee Reports Election Results

*SK2211043093 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0300 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[“Communique” (podo) issued by the DPRK Central Election Committee in Pyongyang on 22 November]

[Text] The elections of deputies to DPRK provincial and municipal people's assemblies were successfully held on 21 November amid the great interest and high political enthusiasm of all the people.

The great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il participated in the elections of deputies to provincial and municipal people's assemblies and warmly encouraged the workers who, with an indomitable spirit and revolutionary enthusiasm, were vigorously waging the struggle to create a speed in the general onward march of the socialism of our own style.

All the voters, with a high sense of loyalty toward the party and the leader, participated, like one, in the elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies to consolidate the people's regime—powerful political weapons for revolution and construction and a genuine servant for the people—into a more invincible one.

The recapitulation of the election results shows that 99.9 percent of the eligible voters participated in the elections and that 100 percent of eligible voters, who participated in the elections, voted for the candidates for the election of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies who were registered at election districts. Voters who were staying overseas or working in the deep sea could not participate in the elections.

The elections of deputies to the provincial and municipal people's assemblies were held in strict compliance with the DPRK election law of deputies to people's assemblies and its implementation regulations, and 3,520 were elected as deputies to provincial and municipal people's assemblies.

The deputies elected to provincial and municipal assemblies are genuine representatives of the workers, peasants, officers and men, and working intellectuals, who are boundlessly loyal to the party and the leader and have devotedly worked for the fatherland and people.

Through the elections, our people clearly showed their firm determination and will to resolutely defend and safeguard the popular masses-centered socialism of our own style and complete it to the end in any complicated situation. They also expressed their absolute support and trust for our people's regime which gives them genuine dignity and rights and ensures happy lives.

The elections again demonstrated throughout the entire world the might of single-minded unity among the leader [suryong], the party, and the popular masses and the superiority of our socialist system, which embodied the

chuche idea, and were an important occasion to further consolidate the chuche-oriented revolutionary regime.

[Signed] DPRK Central Election Committee
[Dated] 22 November 1993, Pyongyang

Foreigners Cited on Election System

SK2211070693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0537
GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Foreign guests staying in Korea visited polling stations in Pyongyang Sunday during the election of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies and praised the election system of Korea as the most democratic, popular one.

M.B. Narasimha, adviser of aromatic [as received] to the UNDP [United Nations Development Program], who called at sub-constituency No. 10 of constituency No. 2 said that for him who had seen the polling stations which had turned into places of acute confrontation between groupings and forces, it was the first time to see such a polling station astir in a festive mood.

Noting that the Korean people are leading a happy life, defending socialism and advancing it more victoriously, as they enjoy the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, he said Korea is, indeed, a big family in which all the people are united as one.

Stephen Nkomo, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front, visited sub-constituency No. 11 of constituency No. 31. He said Korea's election system is a very democratic and superior one, adding that candidates for deputies supported by the people are elected and all the voters participate in the voting, expressing their intentions.

Rolf Priemer, co-chairman of the Communist Party of Germany, who visited sub-constituency No. 69 of constituency No. 157 said the faces of every people participating in the election, heroes, workers and office employees, were beaming with smiles. He said he saw in this the joy of the Korean people electing their true representatives.

He said: "We believe that the Korean people will achieve greater success in their struggle to strengthen their power and consolidate and further develop the successes made in socialist construction."

Prem Suwal, secretary of the Nepal Workers and Peasants Party, said the imperialists now are spreading a false propaganda as if there were no true democracy in socialist countries, but it is a sheer fabrication.

"The election now under way in Korea is, indeed, a true election reflecting the will of the people," he noted.

At sub-constituency No. 69 of constituency No. 157 Francis Limo, member of the National Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania, and a department director of the academy of social sciences, said everyone in Korea is participating in the election with political rights. "The participation of 100 percent of the registered voters in the election as I heard is possible only in the socialist system of Korea", he noted.

A Nepalese writer Harihar Raj Joshi said the election in Korea was diametrically different from the election in capitalist society. "Such election system as in Korea cannot be seen anywhere else in the world," he stressed.

Further Reportage on Journalists' Congress

Kim Chong-il Called 'Sagacious Leader'

SK2011024893 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1000 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Remarks delivered by Paek Ho-song, editor-in-chief of the HAMBUK ILBO, at the 18 November afternoon session of the the Seventh Congress of the Korean Journalists Union held in Pyongyang—recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades: Journalists and men of the press of [words indistinct], the provincial broadcasting station, and various other offices must indoctrinate the people and vigorously lead them to implement the party's policies. Taking this congress as an opportunity, I am resolved to fulfill my duty as a primary-level worker in the ideological front by making big progress in [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Finally, on this honorable occasion, I sincerely wish that the great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the sagacious leader of our party and people [uridanggwa inminui yongmyonghan suryong], the destiny of all of us, and the tender-hearted teacher [chaaeroun susung] of all journalists and men of the press, will enjoy a long life and good health. [applause]

Award Ceremony for Participants

SK2011045393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417
GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—A ceremony was held at the People's Palace of Culture Friday to award state decorations and gifts to the participants in the seventh congress of the Korean Journalists Union [KJU].

Present there were Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president, and officials concerned.

At the ceremony the title of labour hero of the DPRK was awarded to one woman of the press and commendation letters of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to six journalists and men of the press, the Samil Wolgan Prize of the DPRK to a former war correspondent of the

Korean People's Army, Yi In-mo, the title of people's journalist to seven journalists and men of the press, the title of merited journalist to 16 journalists and men of the press and the title of merited announcer to one.

The recipients have made a great contribution to arming the party members and other working people with the chuche idea and arousing them vigorously to the implementation of the party's policies by conducting active publication and information services under the leadership of the party.

And gifts from the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were conveyed to the participants in the seventh KJU congress.

Yi In-mo took the floor first at the ceremony.

He said he could not find proper words to express his feelings of gratitude to the dear leader who has shown so much loving care for him and this time let him attend the seventh KJU congress, awarded the Samil Wolgan Prize and presented a gift to him.

Noting that the flag of the glorious Workers' Party of Korea bears a brush symbolic of the intellectuals, Yi In-mo said "this is an honor and pride of we Korean journalists, intellectuals."

"We journalists now are fighting with the pen mightier than the sword on the forefront of war without gun report," he said, expressing the belief that the journalists would fight more courageously in the future.

He said he does not know how to thank the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il for their love and solicitude, and vowed to fight to the last moments of his life.

Then speeches were made by Choe Song-won, vice-director of a department of the DPRK Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee, Yi Yong-hyok, director of a department of NODONG SINMUN, Mun Song-nak, head of a department of the Korean People's Army Newspaper office, and Im Sun-nam, a journalist of KAESONG SINMUN.

They expressed their resolve to bring about a great revolutionary change in publication and information services by thoroughly carrying out the tasks set out in the letter of Comrade Kim Chong-il and in the congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee, cherishing deep in their minds the honor of today.

Daily Hails Success of Journalists' Congress

SK2011050893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 20 Nov 93

[**"NODONG SINMUN Calls for Journalists, Men of the Press To Add Shine to Korean-Style Socialism With Pen of Revolution"—KCNA headline**]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an editorial hailing the success of the seventh congress of the Korean Journalists Union.

The letter sent by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to the participants in the congress constitutes a highly important guideline whereby news media of our party can discharge its noble mission with credit and an inspiring banner giving the journalists, men of the press burning revolutionary enthusiasm and confidence, the editorial says, and continues:

The congress was a congress of loyalty, a congress of singlehearted unity that demonstrated the sagacity of the leadership of our party that is triumphantly leading the building of revolutionary press and the unshakable faith of all the Korean journalists, men of the press who remain faithful to the party and the cause of socialism.

By demonstrating the iron will of the Korean journalists, men of the press to become a permanent pen and mike sharing the destiny with the party, it opened a brighter prospect for the building of our party's press.

It was also a congress of worthwhile progress and innovation to effect once again a great revolutionary upsurge in the publication and information services in compliance with the requirements of the developing revolution.

The congress discussed the tasks to further revolutionize newspaper, news services, broadcasting services and publications with redoubled efforts for the present and indicated the clear ways of carrying them out. For this the congress marked another important milestone in improving our publication and information services in a revolutionary way as intended by the party.

All the journalists, men of the press should wield higher the pen of revolution to bring the glorious present era into full bloom in hearty response to the letter of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the editorial stresses.

It says the journalists, men of the press should more energetically conduct propaganda about the greatness of the party and the leader and briskly conduct press services to bring the advantages and invincible might of our socialism home to the masses both in principle and life and to encourage all the people in the North, South and abroad to valiantly turn out in the struggle for the reunification of the country, strengthen international solidarity with the Korean revolution and check and frustrate the aggressive and belligerent moves of the imperialists.

The journalists, men of the press should be a permanent companion, faithful assistant and good advisor of our party and resolutely defend the party's policies and carry them through, regarding loyalty to the leader as their first and foremost life and always breathing and fighting as intended by the party at any time and in any place, the editorial stresses.

Kim Il-song Ensures Children Receive Fruit

*SK2011014393 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 17 Nov 93*

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song extended warm love to children and students of Pyongyang by ensuring the supply of fruit to them everyday. In a meeting with Han Yong-suk, reporter of the Korea Central Broadcasting Network, Kim Tae-kwang, head of a section in the Administration and Economic Committee of Moranbong District; Yi Son-cho, teacher at Pyongyang People's Senior Middle School, and Kwon Ok, a student, said as follows.

[Begin Kim recording] The great leader extends love and various forms of benevolence to children by calling them as the kings of the future of the nation. He again extended boundless love and benevolence to all children and students in the city to ensure the normal supply of fruit to them.

The great leader personally saw the nutrition analysis table of fruit and even comprehended the quantity of daily nutrition required for the growth of children. Then he personally calculated how much fruit would be required to feed all children until next year's fruit harvest.

Besides, the great leader checked many times all the problems one by one in providing children with fruit, and solved all problems raised in transportation and storage. The dear comrade leader, who upholds the great leader's lofty intention, gave prudent teachings and put forward concrete tasks so that the love of the fatherly leader be better extended to the children in the capital. [end recording]

[Begin Yi recording] Amid the great love and mercy of the great leader and dear comrade leader, our people's senior middle school now has a new time to provide the students with fruit during a recess, just as other schools in the city. Our children and students are growing well as happy kids of the nation in the endlessly benevolent bosom of love of the great leader and dear comrade leader who extend all benevolence and love to the children, saying that nothing is too precious for our children, and send new uniforms as gifts every new season so that they grow up valiantly as reserve force of the revolution.

Every time we see the students showing their joy while eating the fruit of love, we recall in deep emotion the great leader's love extended to the members of the children's corps during the days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle. Giving kind consideration to members of the children's corps who, in the land of another country, did not know how their home country's apple looked like or how it tasted, the great leader sent Korean apples to the members of the children's corps in the base of (Sowangchong) guerrilla unit. The Korean apples the fatherly leader sent to the children implant the sense of

loyalty in the hearts of our growing new generations with greater significance with each passing day.

The dear comrade leader always extends careful love and mercy to our children so that they study and play to their content, and that everyone grows up healthily and valiantly. Amid such love, our students are growing more vigorously as successors to our revolution without knowing any worry and concern. [end recording]

[Begin Kwon recording] After deliciously eating the apple of love given from fatherly Generalissimo Kim Il-song and the dear comrade leader, I feel new energy springing up and my determination to study harder to return the love and mercy becomes stronger. In the future, I will repay without fail the love and benevolence given to our children and students from fatherly generalissimo Kim Il-song and dear comrade leader with loyalty and filial piety. [end recording]

Symposium Held on President's 'Immortal' Work

*SK1911045593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421
GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—A central symposium was held here Thursday to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the publication of "On Communist Education", an immortal classical work of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Present at the symposium were Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea and vice president, and Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and officials concerned.

In his historical speech "On Communist Education" made at a short course for agitators of city and county party committees of the country 35 years ago, President Kim Il-song newly clarified for the first time in history, by brilliantly applying the immortal *chuche* idea, that human remolding for occupying the ideological fortress of communism after the establishment of socialist system is a most important work deciding on the fate of the building of socialism and communism, and gave an all-round scientific exposition of theoretical and practical problems therefrom.

Speakers at the symposium said the work of the respected leader which has made an immortal contribution to the development of the revolutionary theory of the working class is a great programme for the training of communistic human beings indicating the true way to attain the ideological fortress of communism.

They gave reasons for saying so, noting that the work expounds the position and role of human remolding work in the building of socialism and communism and perfectly indicates the goal and content of the education for rearing communistic human beings and the basic principles and ways to this end. They pointed out the fact that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has

further developed in depth and systematized in an integral way the idea of the great leader on communistic human remolding in compliance with the new requirements of the developing revolution of the present era.

Paper Lauds Kim Chong-il's Analysis of Socialism

*SK1911235593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053
GMT 19 Nov 93*

["Socialist Democracy Is Basic Mode of People's Government Activities"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article Friday stresses that socialist democracy is the basic mode of people's government activities.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, basing himself on a profound scientific analysis of the correlations between the people's government and the popular masses in socialist society, clarified from a new angle that socialist democracy should be the basic mode of people's government activities.

The article says socialist democracy is the basic mode of people's government activities because it is democracy that reflects the collectivist nature of socialist society, a genuine democracy that enables broad segments of the working masses to substantially exercise their rights as the masters of society and discharge their responsibility and role as such.

Socialist democracy constitutes the politics of the popular masses themselves to play their role as masters of the state and society, the article says, and goes on:

In our society where socialist democracy is fully applied all the people form a solid socio-political organism on the basis of revolutionary comradeship and sense of obligations with the high consciousness of being the true masters of the state and society and ability as such.

Socialist democracy is also politics for the sake of broad segments of the working masses. For this the people's government that regards it as the supreme goal of its activities to completely realise the independence of the popular masses takes socialist democracy as the basic mode of its activities.

Today our people's government thoroughly guarantees the independent rights of the popular masses so as to make them the true masters of the state and society.

Our people are leading a dignified and worthy life to their heart's content as the true masters of the state and society under the most superior people's government. Through their life experience, they feel with all their heart that their system and their government are precious and see in the strengthening and development of the people's government a shining victory of the socialist cause of *chuche* and the bright future of their independent and creative life in fuller bloom.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Pilot Plant

*SK2011045193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0405
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, extended thanks to the cosmetic pilot plant under the Academy of Light Industrial Science and to the medical group of the Cerebral Neurosurgery Department of the South Pyongan Provincial people's Hospital which had distinguished themselves in bringing the beautiful tradition of army-civilian unity into full bloom.

The officials and employees of the cosmetic pilot plant visited a People's Army unit with various kinds of souvenirs they had prepared with the utmost care, including flags of the republic, silk banners, scrolls, etc., and encouraged soldiers with their colorful art performance.

The medical workers completely cured an unexpectedly wounded soldier who had been considered difficult to recover with their intensive treatment and all sincerity and thus enabled him to return to his post in defence of the motherland.

Thanks of Comrade Kim Chong-il was conveyed with due ceremony at the units.

LSWYK Plenary Meeting Held 16, 17 Nov

*SK2011021293 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 17 Nov 93*

[Text] The third plenary meeting of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] Central Committee was held in Pyongyang on 16 and 17 November. Members and candidate members of the LSWYK Central Committee, chairmen of the LSWYK in central organizations, plants and enterprises in provinces, cities, counties and colleges, and functionaries involved in youth publications, attended the plenary meeting.

The plenary meeting discussed tasks of LSWYK organizations to further strengthen the singlehearted unity of the whole society with the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as the center, and the work of thoroughly establishing iron-clad discipline under which the LSWYK acts as one according to the party's unitary leadership.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee, made a report at the meeting, and discussions followed. The reporter and speakers said that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has recently passed on programmatic teaching that the mass-centered socialism of our own style has firmly safeguarded our country, the generations of the revolution have been firmly inherited, and the party's leadership loyally upheld to accomplish the *chuche* revolutionary cause.

They unanimously emphasized that the great leader's teaching is a precious ideological and theoretical asset which further developed and enriched the theory on inheriting the socialist cause, and that it is another militant banner with epoch-making significance in accelerating the realization of the *chuche* revolutionary cause.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Just as the first generation of our revolution pioneered the glorious road of the Korean people and struggled in firm unity with the leader, youth should loyally uphold the party's leadership with single-hearted unity with Comrade Kim Chong-il as the center.

The reporter and speakers noted that the mission of the LSWYK organizations in strengthening the single-hearted unity of the entire society with the dear comrade leader as the center is particularly important. They emphasized that functionaries in organizations at all levels and the LSWYK should always pay attention to the work of firmly uniting members of the League with the party.

They said that what is important in this work is to have youth assume the great ideas and theories of the dear comrade leader as unitary ideological and mental knowledge and as their outlook on the world and cherish them as inheritors of the *chuche* revolutionary cause. They stressed that LSWYK members and youth should conduct broad and in depth study of Kim Chong-il's works—an encyclopedia for revolution and construction—and his other immortal works.

They pointed out that ideological indoctrination work should be carried out in various forms and methods to propagandize and disseminate the greatness and immortal leadership achievements of the dear comrade leader according to the characteristics of youth. They put forward a series of measures for this work.

They noted that they will implant firm faith and will in the hearts of LSWYK members and youth that if the dear comrade leader is standing at the van of the revolution, they will win victory no matter what violent wind may blow and how many times heaven and earth may change. They said that they will foster LSWYK members and youth to be reliable young vanguards of the party who loyally uphold the leadership of dear comrade leader and carry on the socialist cause to accomplishment.

The reporter and speakers emphasized that iron-clad discipline should be thoroughly established to make the entire League move as one under the party's unitary leadership. They stressed that the revolutionary traits should be firmly established to unconditionally accept the party's line and policy and carry them to completion.

They emphasized that measures should be worked out to strengthen organizational and political work, as well as ideological indoctrination work, so that all LSWYK members and youth lead the van of implementing the party's line and policy with a resolution to become the

flame, as though party members were charcoal, by invigorating the revolutionary spirit and traditional fine customs of the Korean youth.

The plenary meeting proceeded in the midst of an overflowing sense of loyalty as the participants resolved to tenaciously fight to accomplish the *chuche* revolutionary cause by following the party's leadership.

The meeting adopted pertinent decisions.

Plenary Session of Agricultural Union Held

*SK2011083593 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 18 Nov 93*

[Text] The 21st plenary session of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea [UAWPK] Central Committee was held in Pyongyang from 16 to 17 November. Presented at the session were members and alternative members of the UAWPK Central Committee; chairmen of the UAWPK of the province, municipality, and county; and UAWPK functionaries of the major plants and enterprises.

During the session, they discussed the task of the UAWPK organizations to further strengthen the single-hearted unity of the whole society centering on the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and to implement thoroughly decisions made at the meeting of the Workers Party of Korea Political Bureau to mark significantly the 30th anniversary of the announcement of the socialist rural thesis.

Yi Chong-won and Yi So-yong, vice chairmen of the UAWPK, made reports and held discussions during the session.

Reporters and debaters talked about the importance of the mission assigned to the UAWPK organizations to consummate the socialist cause, a *chuche* revolutionary cause, by firmly uniting around the party, thus upholding the programmatic teaching that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song recently gave.

They stressed that UAWPK organizations and functionaries at each level must, first, strengthen the organizational, political, ideological, and educational work to accelerate vigorously an ideological revolution in the rural communities. They added that to safeguard endlessly, adhere to, and consummate the popular mass-centered socialist cause of our own style, a *chuche* revolutionary cause—a revolutionary ethos in which they uphold the party's leadership with loyalty by uniting as one around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il—must be thoroughly established in a whole society and the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural, which are the general line of our party—must be firmly adhered to.

They said that the basis of the ideological revolution is to strongly arm members of the union with the *chuche* idea, a revolutionary idea of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and with our party's idea and theory that

evolved from it, and that a study of the great works, including Kim Chong-il's selected works, must be popularly and practically carried out in conformity with the standard of the agricultural working people.

They said that with this, members of the union must deeply grasp in various forms and methods the greatness of ideology and theory of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the greatness of his leadership, and the greatness of his ethos and become strong communist revolutionaries who consummate the socialist cause, a *chuche* revolutionary cause, to the end.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: The basic mission of UAWPK organizations is to lead the agricultural working people to implement actively the rural thesis.

Reporters and debaters said that the organizations and functionaries of the UAWPK must strengthen the organizational and political work to demonstrate the greatness, justice, and vitality of the thesis, thus upholding the decision made at the meeting of the party Central Committee Political Bureau.

They stressed that it is important to lead members of the union to be fully aware of the leadership achievements obtained by the great leader and the dear leader, who have led the socialist rural construction to victory, and the success made in the implementation of the rural thesis in combination with the proud realities opened by the socialist collective economy.

Referring to the vigorous acceleration of the technological, cultural, and ideological revolution in the rural communities, they have raised the problems to conduct actively the political work and the popular movement in order to establish cultured ways in work and life in the rural communities, thus industrializing and modernizing agriculture and raising the technological and cultural standard of farmers.

They said: The organizations and functionaries of the UAWPK at each level must boldly and positively organize the work and expand their achievement by the finished-one-by-one method, thus concentrating efforts on the key sectors.

They said that successfully winding up this year's farming and properly preparing for next year's farming are important revolutionary tasks to enhance the people's standard of living and to constantly effect the vitality of the rural thesis, thus effecting a constant upsurge in agricultural production.

They said that the organizations and functionaries of UAWPK at each level must thresh, in a timely manner, well-ripened grains without wasting even a grain and properly keep and manage them, and that they must positively carry out organizational and political work to finish successfully the preparation for farming during the

national meeting of agriculture to be held on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the announcement of the rural thesis.

The plenary session reported: The organizations and members of the UAWPA, being fully aware of their sacred mission and duty, must vigorously carry out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—in the rural communities and contribute to completely realizing the great socialist rural thesis. As a result, they must positively hasten the victory of our party's revolutionary cause, a *chuche* revolutionary cause.

Efforts for Agricultural Mechanization Noted

SK1811152093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 18 (KCNA)—Vigorous efforts are being exerted in Korea to complete the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the publication of the great socialist rural theses.

Factories and enterprises including the Kumsong general tractor works, the "Chungsong" tractor factory and the Haeju trailing farm machine factory are turning out a larger number of tractors, trailing farm machines and spare parts to be sent to the countryside.

Various kinds of highly efficient farm machines are produced by farm machine stations and farm machine repair shops in all provinces, cities and counties by their own efforts.

Chaeryong County alone plans to produce over 2,000 farm machines like ridge-making machines, seedbed-making machines and agricultural chemicals sprayers till February next year, and has now made many of them which are being used for the imminent farming.

The level of mechanization of agriculture has developed to a high phase as rural communities have been constantly supplied with up-to-date machines and tools.

The number of tractors used in the agricultural sector now is seven in plain and six in intermediary and mountainous areas per 100 hectares of arable land, that of trucks 1.5 and rice-transplanting machines 6.1.

There are many co-op farms that have 8 to 10 tractors per 100 hectares of cultivated land.

Agro-technicians and specialists have sharply increased in number from about 100,000 in 1974 to 240,000 at the end of the 1980s.

Agricultural mechanization was started in real earnest in Korea in the 1960s.

The great leader President Kim Il-song published the socialist rural theses and put forward the policy of realizing the mechanization of agriculture in an all-round way.

As a result, large-scale tractor factories, trailing farm machine factories, farm implements factories and farm machine repair bases have been built in all parts of the country, accelerating the mechanization of agriculture at a high tempo.

The task of bringing the number of tractors used in farming to 70,000 to 80,000, set out in the rural theses, was successfully carried out in 1974.

In the '80s more up-to-date and highly efficient farm machines were produced and supplied in large quantities.

Now, the peasants who toiled and moiled in farming drawing ploughs in the pre-liberation days are working joyfully with machines, living a happy life to their heart's content in cosy modern dwellings little short of that of the urban people.

More Account Settlement Meetings Held on Farms

*SK2011112393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—Meetings for year-end account settlement and income distribution took place on cooperative farms of Korea which reaped a rich harvest.

The meetings were recently held at the Ohyon cooperative farm in Yonan County, South Hwanghae Province, the Migok cooperative farm in Sariwon city, North Hwanghae Province, the Yihyon cooperative farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, and other cooperative farms.

The Ohyon cooperative farm carried out its plan for farming this year at 116 percent for food grain, 101.6 percent for vegetables, 113.7 percent for fruits, 112.9 percent for meat and at 102.8 percent for cocoons by doing farming on a scientific and technological basis as required by the *chuche* method of farming.

The Migok cooperative farm produced more than 9.3 tons of paddy rice and 8.9 tons of maize from each hectare on an average this year. Thus, the farm carried out its state assignments at 104.5 percent for food grain, 102.9 percent for vegetables, 158.9 percent for fruits, 110.8 percent for meat and 133.3 percent for cocoons.

The plan of agricultural production was also overfulfilled on all indices at the Yiyon cooperative farm, Unha cooperative farm in Unjon County, Kwanha cooperative farm in Hyangsan County and Oeso and Tohwa cooperative farms in Kaechon city.

A large share of grain and cash went to each agricultural working people at the meetings.

Daily Calls for Consolidating Reunification Body

*SK2011110393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013
GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in an article on the 3rd anniversary of the formation of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), a pan-national reunification movement organisation, stresses that the patriotic movement for reunification of Pomminnyon which is vigorously advancing under the great banner of independent reunification, the banner of the great unity of the whole nation, is optimistic and sure to emerge victorious.

The formation of Pomminnyon is a brilliant achievement made in the arduous struggle for national reunification of our nation for nearly half a century and a proud fruition of the nongovernmental movement for reunification, the article says, and goes on:

The reunification in the 90s, the milestone of our nation, is a supreme order of the nation which no one can break and the noble task Pomminnyon has assumed before the nation.

"10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country" worked out and published by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song indicates the best way of tiding over the present difficulties and opening a broad avenue of reunification in the 90s by the concerted efforts of the whole nation.

If Pomminnyon is to discharge its duty and responsibility in achieving the great unity of the whole nation and accelerating the reunification in the 90s at present, it should further consolidate, expand and develop its organisation, first of all.

In order to defend, expand and develop Pomminnyon, it is urgently required to form the South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon at an early date and gain the legality of its activity.

Pomminnyon organisations in the North and abroad should actively support and encourage the patriotic activities for reunification of South side's officials concerned with Pomminnyon and wage a powerful struggle by merging their voices to keep the South Korean authorities from blocking the formation of South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon and its activities.

Pomminnyon should form its affiliated organisations of different strata and branches and actively conduct patriotic activities for reunification and develop the movement into a widespread one, while consolidating and developing its own organisation.

What is most important in the Pomminnyon's movement for national reunification for the present is to implement the points of resolution of the fourth pan-national rally to the letter.

Daily Says 'People's Power' Guides Government*SK2011110593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 20 Nov 93*

["People's Power is True Socialist Government for People Guided by Chuche Idea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 20 (KCNA)—Our chuche-type people's power with the great chuche idea as its only guiding idea is an independent and popular government built and run by our people themselves in keeping with their desire and aspirations, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"The people's power is a true socialist government centred on the people with the chuche idea as its guiding idea".

The article says:

Guided by the great chuche idea, our people's power subordinates everything to enhancing the position and role of the popular masses with the main emphasis placed on their requirements and interests in the government building and activities and is successfully pushing ahead with the revolution and construction, firmly maintaining the independent and creative stand in the revolution and construction and enhancing the ideological consciousness of the people.

It places the workers, peasants and other broad segments of the working masses in the position of the masters of the state and society and is carrying on all its activities in accordance with their requirements and interests. It is thanks to the people's power which is shaping true popular politics that our people now are successfully carrying into effect their requirements and interests, enjoying all the political rights and freedom, a healthy and civilized life to their heart's content as the true masters of the state and society.

Successfully applying the chuche idea, the people's power opposes all descriptions of outdated ideas including flunkeyism and dogmatism and solves all the problems in the government building and activities in conformity with the specific conditions of our country in reliance upon the strength of our people according to its independent judgment and view.

The guiding principles of the revolution and construction expounded by the chuche idea—chuche in ideology, independence in politics, self-sustenance in the economy and self-reliance in national defence—are the guiding principles of the activities of our people's power in the revolutionary struggle and construction.

Always laying main emphasis on the ideology first theory, the people's power takes it as its consistent principle in socialist construction to give precedence to the political work for elevating the consciousness of

independence of the popular masses and combine it with the administrative and business affairs, and economic affairs and technical work. As there is the people's government which is constantly boosting the ideological consciousness of the popular masses, socialist construction has been pressed forward forcefully in our country amidst the high revolutionary enthusiasm of the people and great successes have been registered in the work of communistic human remoulding.

The reality eloquently proves that the great chuche idea is the only guiding idea brightly indicating the way of building a socialist government and of its activities and that only when it advances under the banner of the chuche idea can the people's power creditably discharge its mission and duty as a true socialist government centred on the masses, the article stresses.

South Korea**President Travels To Washington To Meet Clinton****Kim Yong-sam Arrives in Washington***SK2211022693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0155 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam arrived Sunday for a summit with U.S. President Bill Clinton, and gave a reception at the Washington Hilton Hotel for Korean immigrants in the area later in the day.

The president explained the results of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders meeting and told the audience that South Korea is emerging as a leading nation for a new order in the Asia-Pacific region.

Kim arrived at Andrews Air Force base on the outskirts of Washington aboard a special plane at 4:30 P.M. Sunday to begin a four-day official visit to the United States.

Kim is the first foreign head of state to pay an official visit to Washington since the Clinton administration was inaugurated in February.

Korean-Americans Attend Reception*SK2211054693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0512 GMT 22 Nov 93*

[Text] Washington, Nov. 21 (YONHAP)—More than 1,000 Korean-American residents of the U.S. capital attended a reception hosted by President Kim Yong-sam on his arrival late Sunday, and they welcomed the president and his wife with applause and cheers.

Representing them, Chong Sae-kwon said that though the head of their mothercountry had visited Washington several times it was the first time that the Korean community was one in expressing a warm welcome for him.

"This may be because of our pride that President Kim has finally materialized democracy and built a civilian government after a long struggle," he said.

Kim, in return, recalled the support and encouragement of overseas Koreans during his days as an opposition party leader and said he was overwhelmed with emotion to be their president.

"I cannot forget your warm love for your country and me during our country's dark days," he said.

He then introduced his reform policy and drew applause from his audience with his confident words that there was a proud future for Korea and its people.

"Korea played a truly important role in discussing the future of APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] in the leaders' forum," Kim said, promising that their proud homeland will lead the Asia-Pacific era.

On subjects of concern to immigrants, Kim said that he knew of a series of crimes against Korean people in Washington and he promised his government will pay special attention to guaranteeing their safety and freedom.

Talks With Clinton Previewed

SK2211031193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0255 GMT
22 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—Presidents Kim Yong-sam of South Korea and Bill Clinton of the United States meet Tuesday to decide their countries' final position on the North Korean nuclear problem and to notify Pyongyang of it.

Kim and Clinton will reaffirm their principle that there can be no negotiated settlement between the United States and North Korea without taking South Korea's view into consideration, according to a senior South Korean Government official.

The two leaders will urge North Korea to allow inspections by the International Atomic energy agency (IAEA) and exchange special envoys with South Korea, the official said.

If North Korea accepts these conditions and eradicates international suspicion it plans to develop nuclear weapons, Kim and Clinton will make clear their willingness to suspend the joint military exercise Team Spirit, he said.

The official disclosed the information to reporters aboard the plane that took Kim to Washington on Sunday from Seattle, where he had attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting with 13 other APEC leaders.

The official thus indicated that there is no possibility the United States will accept North Korea's so-called "package deal."

Moreover, he said that if North Korea does not accept the final position reached at the Kim-Clinton summit, the North Korean nuclear issue will be referred to the United Nations Security Council for "stronger measures."

Kim and Clinton will discuss these measures, he said.

The two leaders will also discuss "various plans" in case North Korea accepts IAEA inspections and exchanges special envoys with South Korea, the official said.

South Korea and the United States have been negotiating closely on the North Korean nuclear issue and they plan to discuss ways to further strengthen the cooperative system, he said.

YONHAP Speculates on Agenda

SK2211070493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0653 GMT
22 Nov 93

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States are to agree on a new approach to the North Korean nuclear problem in their summit Wednesday, addressing different questions than the ones dealt with recently. The overall tone is, Seoul and Washington are willing to reward Pyongyang if it accepts International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections and resumption of inter-Korean dialogue.

But unlike several weeks ago, when South Korea and the United States were demanding unilateral concessions from Pyongyang before even revealing what carrots were on offer, the two countries are to make the critical touches softening the demands and sweetening the reward.

The two demands—that North Korea negotiate with both the IAEA and South Korea—remain. But on Wednesday, Presidents Kim Yong-sam and Bill Clinton are likely to lower the level of the demands and agree that, in principle, Washington can engage in talks for a comprehensive solution of the North Korean nuclear situation.

For instance, Kim and Clinton may decide not to insist on waiting until after South and North Korea actually exchange presidential envoys, who are to discuss solution of the nuclear problem.

Instead, it may be enough for the two Koreas to roughly agree on a plan to exchange envoys. The presidents, discussing what level of inspections will satisfy the IAEA, may decide that Pyongyang doesn't have to open up all of its nuclear sites right now.

Instead, North Korea could do the minimum by allowing the same type of inspections it received until February, before it announced its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In return for these moves by Pyongyang, Washington will cancel next year's South Korea-U.S. annual military maneuver "Team Spirit" and begin discussing North Korea's proposal for a "package deal."

Clinton and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher have strongly hinted things are moving in this direction, tossing out phrases like "comprehensive solution" and "comprehensive deal."

But the new approach is a doubled-edged sword. Team Spirit and a comprehensive solution are the few remaining diplomatic means to solving the nuclear problem.

If playing them fails, South Korea and the United States have that many more reasons and justification for turning 180 degrees and enforcing sanctions.

Even if the new strategy works, it's only a temporary solution to tide over a momentary crisis. The core issue—IAEA access to suspected North Korean nuclear sites—is pushed back to the next stage of negotiations.

Seoul officials laugh off the possibility, but the new strategy can well push the importance of inter-Korean dialogue into the background, leaving Pyongyang and Washington to do their own negotiating.

Considering all the side issues that have to be cleared before North Korea and the United States can normalize ties, negotiations for a comprehensive solution will be anything but easy.

Full solution to the North Korean nuclear problem, consequently, will be delayed that much.

North Korea and the United States are likely to hold a contact soon after the Kim-Clinton summit to attempt this new approach. If Pyongyang accepts, it will contact the IAEA and agree to inspections and reopen inter-Korean dialogue.

The real hard work will come after that.

Commentator Analyzes APEC Summit Results

*SK2111080393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0749 GMT
21 Nov 93*

[By Chang Yong-sop: "APEC Matures, Gains Strength Through Historical Regional Summit"]

[Text] Seattle, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—The fledgling Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) has matured this year to look more like a full-grown adult, thanks to heads of state from member nations who came together here for a historical regional summit Saturday.

Casually attired leaders from members of APEC, just in its fifth year, sat around a shoulder-to-shoulder conference table for a free-style discussion on Asia-Pacific issues that laid stepping stones to a new economic order in the region.

The leaders agreed to meet again next year when APEC convenes in Jakarta, a sign that the regional body is no longer a loose-knit annual gathering but an organization that can implement.

Japan, host of the APEC conference for 1995, also said it intends to arrange an economic leaders' meeting that year, heightening chances that the summit will become an annual event.

APEC gave birth to the new Trade and Investment Committee (TIC) this year to realize free trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific. The committee is backed up sturdy by a declaration encompassing the will of APEC members, increased to 17 this year by entry of Mexico and Papua New Guinea, for long-term promotion of intra-regional trade activities and ultimately for an Asia-Pacific economic community. But the most important outcome of the Seattle conference was the pledge by all members for the conclusion of Uruguay Round within this year.

They issued a statement that said they will give their all for the successful conclusion of the multilateral trade negotiations by the given Dec. 15 deadline.

The politically-driven statement said the Asia-Pacific region will lead with specific initiatives for successful results at the Uruguay Round.

The statement was not easily attained. There was a hard tug of war before it came through, omitting the part where APEC members unanimously support non-exceptional tariffication rule of the Uruguay Round, the part much feared by Japan and most by South Korea who says it cannot open its rice market.

APEC's united support for the Uruguay Round is of no small value. After all, the Asia-Pacific region claims 40 percent of world population and 50 percent of global gross national product.

South Korea, too, expressed its commitment for the success of the Uruguay Round. President Kim Yong-sam and Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu reiterated the point in their speeches and public appearances.

Seoul will get its best chance yet to show in another way its commitment to free trade as the first-year chairman of the Trade and Investment Committee that will be launched next year.

This year's conference filled in more substance to APEC, forming a "business forum" among civilian businessmen to recommend to their governments what measures are needed for regional free trade.

Finance ministers will be meeting for the first time next year to coordinate their policies aimed at removing barriers to intra-regional investment flow. But APEC watchers warn against self-complacency. This region, they say, is composed of nations separate and different in history, cultural background and level of economic development.

The region has sub-regionally developed economic bodies like the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA) and the Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (CER). The task is for APEC to wisely coordinate these sub-regional groupings under it, watchers say, its success depends on this.

Assistant Foreign Minister on Nuclear Issue

SK1911134493 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
19 Nov 93 p 5

[Interview with Sin Ki-pok, assistant foreign minister for political affairs and head of a team dealing with North Korea's nuclear issue, by reporter Pak Ui-chun; place and date not given—first two paragraphs are CHUNGANG ILBO introduction]

[Text] Are there signs of change in the U.S. policy regarding North Korea's nuclear issue? The U.S. media is carrying feature articles on this matter while the ROK Government continues to deny this by saying that the United States has changed its policy on North Korea's nuclear issue.

The following is an interview with Sin Ki-pok, assistant foreign minister for political affairs and head of a team dealing with North Korea's nuclear issue, on the position of the ROK and the United States in resolving North Korea's nuclear issue, currently in a state of confusion.

[Pak Ui-chun] It seems that there is disagreement between the ROK and the United States on the way to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue.

[Sin Ki-pok] There is no difference of opinion between the ROK and the United States on the efforts to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue. The cooperative relations maintained between the two countries in the past is an example of joint efforts between allies.

[Pak] There were reports that the ROK and the United States will announce the suspension of next year's Team Spirit exercise before other actions are taken.

[Sin] No decision has been made regarding this matter. The two countries will continue to consult with each other on whether to hold the Team Spirit exercise next year by looking for changes in North Korea's attitude. The key to the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise lies in changes in North Korea's attitude.

[Pak] Is there a difference between North Korea's proposal of a "package deal," and the "comprehensive consultations" put forth by the United States?

[Sin] In the 11 November statement by North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu, head of the North side's delegation to the DPRK-U.S. talks, North Korea said that the "two sides must simultaneously work on an equal basis." However, its meaning is not clear. The comprehensive consultations advocated by the United States mean that various pending problems concerning the nuclear issue should be discussed comprehensively.

[Pak] What is the ROK Government's official position on the package deal? The government has said that it would deal with various pending issues gradually depending on the elimination of the nuclear suspicions of North Korea.

[Sin] It is not time to consider or discuss the package deal espoused by North Korea. We worry about the possibility that as North Korea rejected the International Atomic Energy Agency's [IAEA] ad hoc [imsi] and routine [ilban] inspections, the continuity of the IAEA's safeguards may be endangered. Therefore, I think, for North Korea to unconditionally accept the IAEA's inspections and resume the North-South working-level contact is a precondition. When this precondition is met, the third stage of North Korea-U.S. contact can be held, and North Korea's political demands, including an improvement of North Korea-U.S. relations, can be discussed then.

[Pak] Some people say that if the government insists on this principle, the nuclear issue cannot be resolved, adding: Therefore, some breakthrough must be achieved.

[Sin] North Korea's acceptance of the IAEA's inspection is North Korea's due responsibility as a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. We have stated many times that the third stage of North Korea-U.S. talks can be held when North Korea shows sincerity in negotiations with South Korea and in the IAEA's inspections. North Korea is the party that should try to achieve a breakthrough.

[Pak] The U.S. National Security Council has reportedly made a decision that can bring about a fundamental change in U.S. policy toward North Korea.

[Sin] Some U.S. media have recently reported that there had been a change in U.S. policy concerning the Team Spirit exercise for next year and the IAEA's inspection. This is not true. The United States has no reason to change its North Korea policy at present.

[Pak] Some people point out that although there is an indication of a smooth solution to the nuclear problem through the U.S.-North Korea contact, the people are confused due to the excessively cautious response of our government. What do you think about this?

[Sin] I do not think so. The government is dealing with this issue with broad-mindedness and flexibility to the extent possible.

[Pak] What is your opinion on the basic position of the United States regarding the establishment of diplomatic relations with North Korea?

[Sin] For the establishment of diplomatic relations with North Korea, the United States put forward certain conditions, including the solution to the nuclear issue, progress in North-South dialogue, control of missile

exports, abandonment of terrorist acts, and improvement in human rights. Of them, the nuclear issue is a precondition to which the United States attaches the greatest importance.

Therefore, solving the North Korean nuclear issue will greatly contribute to creating conditions for improvement of North Korea-U.S. relations. However, I think that a considerable time is required for reaching an agreement on the establishment of diplomatic relations.

[Pak] How deeply do you think the North Korean nuclear problem will be discussed during the ROK-U.S. summit talks on 23 November?

[Sin] An assessment of the overall prevailing situation and the directions of countermeasures henceforth will be made. However, the content and result of the discussions will be announced after the summit.

[Pak] Some people pointed out that in a bid to rapidly solve the North Korean nuclear problem, the United States neglects the importance of North-South dialogue.

[Sin] The United States is fully aware of the importance of the North-South dialogue in its efforts to solve the North Korean nuclear problem. Therefore, the United States totally respects our side's position in the course of working out strategy and measures for the solution to the nuclear issue.

[Pak] There is a report that the United States will designate next February as the time limit for a nuclear inspection of North Korea. Is this report reliable?

[Sin] That is news to me. We can hardly say that a certain deadline can be set for nuclear inspections. The continuity of nuclear safeguards is an issue that the IAEA should technically evaluate.

Official Denies Suspension of Team Spirit

SK1911022693 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 19 Nov 93 p 2

[Text] Assistant Foreign Minister Sin Ki-pok said on 18 November: "There is no change in the existing policy of the ROK and the United States that the Team Spirit exercise will be suspended only when North Korea accepts the International Atomic Energy Agency's [IAEA] ad hoc [imsi] and regular [ilban] inspections and the exchange of South-North special envoys."

In a talk with reporters, Assistant Foreign Minister Sin revealed: "Reports by U.S. media, including THE WASHINGTON POST, that the United States will announce the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise before North Korea accepts inspection of its nuclear inspection are not true."

Assistant Foreign Minister Sin continued to explain: "When considering the fact that the United States attaches great importance to our country in Northeast Asia, the United States will not act unilaterally, ignoring

our side's views. Every morning and evening we are consulting with the United States on ways to resolve the North's nuclear issue. There is no change in the existing position between the ROK and the United States."

A high-ranking government official accompanying President Kim Yong-sam to the United States stated: "If North Korea accepts nuclear inspection first, then the ROK and the United States will suspend the Team Spirit exercise next year."

Paper Examines U.S.-ROK Policy on North

SK2011042293 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 20 Nov 93 p 3

[Text] A U.S. signal of going astray from its existing policy on the North Korean nuclear issue has done not a little damage to the ROK-U.S. cooperative system against the North's nuclear development.

It is the U.S. new approach to a settlement of this matter that before North Korea allows nuclear inspections, the United States announces the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise and proposes advantages that North Korea can get in return for allowing inspections. THE WASHINGTON POST and other U.S. media in succession reported this new U.S. approach without prior consultation with the ROK Government, thus embarrassing it.

Although the true picture of the U.S. Administration's attempt to detach the ROK has not yet been revealed, this does not seem to create any further stir because our government issued a strong protest and because U.S. high-ranking officials, including Secretary of State Christopher, made statements reconfirming the existing U.S. policy toward the North.

The recent incident, however, showed the possibility of the U.S. walkover as well as tested the ROK Government's determination not to allow the U.S. attempt to run alone as far as the Korean peninsula is concerned, thus revealing the potential discord between the ROK and the United States.

It was the 15 November White House national security meeting when the United States attempted to change its policy in order to break the deadlock of the nuclear issue. Present at the meeting were the three key persons in charge of external policies—Warren Christopher, secretary of state; Les Aspin, secretary of defense; and Anthony Lake, presidential adviser on national security. It was learned that in the meeting the State Department insisted on announcing the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise first, while the Department of Defense insisted that it is impossible to suspend it before ordinary [tongsang] and ad hoc [imsi] inspections of reported nuclear facilities of North Korea and special [tukpyol] inspections of its unreported nuclear facilities are conducted, but they failed to narrow the gap between their opinions.

According to an ROK Foreign Ministry official's analysis, it seems that therefore, the U.S. national security meeting suggested to President Clinton several flexible measures, including an announcement on suspending the Team Spirit exercise, instead of making a certain conclusion.

By the way, the U.S. Administration did not sufficiently inform the ROK of what was discussed in the national security meeting, thus causing problems. The United States just informed the ROK Embassy on 16 November that "No agreement was reached because the Departments of State and Defense insisted on opposing opinions."

THE WASHINGTON POST and other U.S. media, however, reported conclusively that President Clinton would adopt a measure for suspension of the Team Spirit exercise and a comprehensive measure for nuclear negotiations with North Korea, which is similar to the North Korean proposal for a package solution. In succession, ROK domestic media featured this, quoting the U.S. media, thus embarrassing the ROK Government.

While the ROK Foreign Ministry authorities iterated the unchanged ROK-U.S. policy, saying those reports are speculative and wrong, the U.S. Department of State did not take an immediate action to explain the incident. This attitude of the United States made the situation more complicated.

The ROK Government officials became more restless. Hong Sun-yong, vice foreign minister expressed on 17 November his unpleasantness with the U.S. media's reports, by saying: "They make people mistakenly think that the United States makes decisions without consultation with us." On 18 November, Sin Ki-pok, first assistant foreign minister, said "It is impossible for the United States to push ahead policies concerning the North Korean nuclear issue while disregarding the ROK, an important factor," and urged the U.S. Administration's proper reaction.

Our government officials, on the other hand, checked through all channels to the United States to see if there was any change in the U.S. policy toward the North. The ROK Government's busy moves resulted in a series of statements made by Secretary of State Christopher on 18 November and the Department of Defense spokesman's statement admitting that "the United States had no consultation with the ROK over the Team Spirit issue."

During a speech at the University of Washington in Seattle, Secretary Christopher said: "The United States is ready to present the North Korean nuclear issue to the UN Security Council if North Korea refuses to accept inspections and resume North-South dialogue." On the same day, during his talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, he reconfirmed the ROK-U.S. agreement that if the third stage of North Korea-U.S. talks are to be held, North Korea must accept nuclear inspections and make efforts to make progress in North-South dialogue.

In this somewhat disorderly course, the ROK and the United States reconfirmed the principle on negotiations with North Korea that the precondition for the third stage of North Korea-U.S. talks is for North Korea to accept nuclear inspections and agree on North-South exchange of special envoys.

However, whether to continue the Team Spirit exercises still depends on President Clinton's intent and decision. Therefore, this will be a major topic in the 23 November ROK-U.S. summit talks.

It is speculated that President Clinton will present to President Kim Yong-sam more flexible alternative plans, including a plan to temporarily discontinue the Team Spirit exercise. It is also speculated that, not to give the impression that the United States monopolizes the decisionmaking process, President Clinton will have the ROK Government announce the discontinuation of the Team Spirit exercise.

President Foresees 'South-North Commonwealth'

SK2111112693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1106 GMT
21 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 21 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam has said he expects a South-North commonwealth will be created before his term of office expires.

"Given various factors at home and abroad, I think inter-Korean relations would reach a point where a South-North commonwealth is created during my term," Kim said.

The president made the remarks in a special interview he had with the daily Seoul SINMUN [name of newspaper as received] on Thursday in Seattle on the daily's 48th anniversary falling on Monday. He said that when mutual inter-Korean trust is restored to a considerable extent after the North Korean nuclear issues were resolved and through the implementation of various inter-Korean agreements, a South-North summit would take place as a matter of course.

President Kim stressed that there have been concrete discussions between South Korea and the United States over the North Korean nuclear issues. He said that when he meets U.S. President Bill Clinton on Nov. 23 in Washington, they would have further in-depth talks on the nuclear question.

The president denied as "not correct" some foreign press report that Seoul and Washington would announce the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise first before North Korea accepts nuclear inspections.

Turning to domestic issues, Kim said that at the moment he does not think of any shakeup of ruling party functionaries or the cabinet. He said there is no plan either to subdivide Seoul's administrative areas in connection with elections of local autonomous body heads.

Noting that the recently introduced real-name financial transactions system had the effect of broadening tax sources, the president said he would see to it that both income and corporate tax rates will be reduced at the current National Assembly session.

"Depending on the collection of internal revenues, we will consider slashing tax rates further next year," President Kim said.

Kim Chong-il's Succession Said Imminent

*SK2011050493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0429 GMT
20 Nov 93*

["Weekly North Korean Review: Kim Chong-il's Succession Extremely Close To Being Realized"]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—Preparations for aging dictator Kim Il-song to be succeeded as absolute ruler of North Korea by his son, Kim Chong-il, are in the final stages and will be wound up when Kim junior becomes either President or Communist Party general secretary. Both posts are currently held by Kim senior.

The signs are everywhere that the moment is near for Kim junior to come into his inheritance.

The 21st plenary session of the Sixth Workers' (Communist) Party Central Committee in Pyongyang on Nov. 15 reportedly discussed the question of naming Kim Chong-il general secretary. The media, under tight control of Pyongyang's propagandists, have been churning out unusual reports on the succession since late October.

According to the NAEWOE press, Seoul's official watcher of North Korean affairs, radio and television reports on Oct. 27 said that Kim junior joined the Party Central Committee in 1964 and was designated his father's heir in early 1974. He was actually named heir in September 1973.

It is believed the date was changed to make his 52nd birthday in February the 20th anniversary of his becoming heir and to use the occasion for a political fanfare to wind up the succession.

Observers say that even if the presidency or post of general secretary is not handed over outright in February, there is a strong possibility that Pyongyang will announce a "final power transfer schedule."

In February 1974, the new date when he was tapped as heir to Kim Il-song, Kim junior was selected a party Politburo member at the eighth plenary session of the Fifth Party Central Committee.

Pyongyang radio and television reports that Kim Chong-il joined the Central Committee in 1964 indicate that he has been groomed as the dictator's heir from that time.

What North Korea is saying, according to the observers, is that next year is the 30th anniversary of his grooming as heir in addition to being the 20th anniversary of his designation.

North Korea is trying to invent "coincidental occasions" to foster the atmosphere for the completion of the succession.

On Nov. 10, radio and television reported that Kim Chong-il was groomed as heir to "the great leader" from 1964, when he graduated from Kim Il-song University, until 1973.

During this period, they said, Kim's "great achievements" were strengthening defense capability and ensuring ideological solidarity in the workers' party.

Kim oversaw the "successful" exchange of fire with South Korean troops across the Military Demarcation Line in April 1967 and the pueblo incident of January 1968, they said.

North Korean media claim in one commentary after another that the succession question has been resolved because "dear comrade Kim Chong-il has comprehensively been leading the party and state since long ago."

North Korea has lately been staging campaigns to build a climate for completion of the succession.

For instance, an extensive movement to "learn after Kim Chong-il" has been launched among youths and students, while two songs about Kim Chong-il are being widely disseminated. The titles are, "Our Father Is Marshal Kim Chong-il" and "Our Father."

Social organizations, controlled by the workers party, are not idle in the frenzied drive to make the junior Kim the next leader.

The Women's Union and Federation of Trade Unions were among the organizations that discussed the question of Kim Chong-il's succession in their general meetings.

A women's union meeting Nov. 15 declared: "With the pride and happiness of dear leader comrade Kim Chong-il being in the center of the leadership, we are full of the fiery determination to accomplish the revolutionary tasks of *chuche*."

In addition, this year being the final year of the third seven-year economic plan is expected to serve as another factor behind the completion of the succession early next year.

North Korea claims widely that the third plan has been highly successful thanks to wise guidance by Kim junior.

Kim Chong-il is credited with, among other things, devising the "200-day battle campaign" and the "movement to create speed warfare of the 1990s." These two

campaigns were both designed to force the already overworked population of North Korea to work even harder.

Representative Office To Open in Taipei 25 Nov

SK2211044693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0400 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] The Foreign Ministry officially announced on 22 November that the ROK will open a representative office in Taipei on 25 November. The ROK representative office in Taipei will be opened under the form of an overseas branch of the Korea International Cooperation Association, and Han Chol-su, former ROK ambassador to Taiwan, was named the first representative.

This resumes ROK-Taiwan relations in non-political sectors including the economic, trade, and cultural fields suspended after diplomatic relations between the ROK and the PRC were established in August 1992. It is learned that the ROK and Taiwan will soon resume bilateral negotiations to conclude pending issues including the resumption of airline services and fruit exports.

ROK, Japan Legislators Issue Statement on Rice

SK2011010493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0206 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—Some 256 South Korean and Japanese parliamentarians issued a joint statement Friday opposing foreign pressure to open their respective rice markets to imports.

The statement, apparently timed with the holding in Seattle of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, was signed by 117 members of the National Assembly from the Democratic Party, the United People's Party, and independents.

From the Japanese side, 139 parliamentarians signed it.

The statement was announced simultaneously in Seoul and Tokyo.

It urges President Kim Yong-sam and Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to clearly enunciate the position of their farmers who oppose the opening of the rice markets.

If the Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations is concluded, ignoring their farmers' opposition, legislators from farm constituencies, along with farmers, will launch a joint struggle to block parliamentary approval of the Uruguay Round agreement, the statement said.

A majority of their farmers are maintaining their livelihood by growing rice, the statement said. Demanding opening of the rice market without taking these situations into consideration is economic tyranny on the part of the United States.

Defense Cooperation Agreement Signed With Spain

SK2011012193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Spain signed an agreement on ensuring the quality of defense materials Thursday to expand cooperation in the sector.

Agreement came in the first meeting of the joint committee on defense industry, which was formed on the basis of a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the defense sector that was signed in March last year.

It was also agreed to sign an agreement on protecting military secrets at an early date as a part of increasing the effectiveness of exchanges.

Spain will give assistance to Korea in introducing medium-sized cargo planes through technology transfer, supporting maintenance capabilities and handing over data on operating air forces.

Both countries also shared the view on exchanging information and materials and on supporting exchanges between their defense companies.

ILO Calls for Revision of Country's Labor Laws

SK1811231493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1214 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 18 (YONHAP)—The International Labor Organization (ILO) has recently sent to the government a nine-point tentative recommendation calling, among others, for the revision of labor-related laws in a way that conforms to the principle of the freedom of association. The recommendation was based on the ILO review of appeals from South Korea's dissident labor organizations, a Labor Ministry official said on Thursday.

The government will prepare a reply to the ILO call in consultations with other relevant government offices by Feb. 14 next year. The ILO's final recommendation, if any, would be determined at an ILO executive meeting slated for next March.

The official said that in a reply the government would stress that labor rights have significantly been improved since the birth of the new government last February. The government will specifically note that all unionized teachers dismissed will shortly be reinstated while many of sacked workers have already been allowed to return to their jobs, he said.

Ministers Say Security Should Be Strengthened

SK2011052793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0501 GMT
20 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—Security-related ministers met at the prime minister's official residence on Saturday to discuss national security during President Kim Yong-sam's visit to the United States, and decided that it should be strengthened. They also discussed the political and security situations around the Korean peninsula, including the North Korean nuclear problem.

The ministers agreed that if Pyongyang accepts inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and agrees on the schedule and procedure for an exchange of envoys with Seoul that South Korea will study suspension of the U.S.-South Korea "Team Spirit" joint military exercise after discussing it with the United States. In that case, the United States will have a third high-level contact with North Korea.

The ministers agreed that they saw no special military moves in North Korea and that reports that North Korean officials in charge of South Korean affairs have been removed from power are false.

Prime Minister Hwang In-song instructed the ministers to make every preparation to effectively meet any situation by keeping the Armed Forces on special alert while Kim is in the United States.

Ex-Defense Minister Sentenced for Bribes

SK2011012393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0511 GMT
19 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—Former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku was sentenced to three years in prison and fined 180 million won (222,772 U.S. dollars) Friday for taking bribes in connection with the Yulgok military buildup program.

The judge at the Seoul Criminal District Court said that it was a serious crime because the person responsible for national defense had received enormous bribes and sold his integrity.

"But the court imposes a relatively light sentence, considering that the crime was not directly related to his job and he deeply regrets his crime," the judge said.

The prosecution had demanded a six-year sentence.

Yi was arrested in July and indicted on a charge of receiving 180 million won from three defense contractors, including 150 million won from Jinro Construction Co. in 1989, when he was in charge of the Yulgok project.

Former Jinro Chairman Pak Tae-sin was given a suspended sentence of one year in prison for bribing Yi.

Government To Hire Foreigners To Ease Shortage

SK2211025593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0158 GMT
22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government will hire 20,000 foreigners to work in small companies annually from next year to ease the labor shortage, and will limit their stay to 12 months, the Justice Ministry said Monday.

The government may withhold a portion of their pay and give it to them only when they leave the country to ensure their departure as many foreigners go into hiding a few days before they should return home, a spokesman said.

A private company will be created to hire foreigners and arrange their employment.

The vice justice, labor, and trade, industry and energy ministers will meet this week to finalize the details of the plan.

"We shall limit foreigners to one year," the spokesman said. "This is because when a foreigner spends a year abroad, he can speak the language and wants to stay longer. This was seen in France and Germany, so we decided on a year."

Burma

Australian Envoy Calls on Tourism Minister

*BK1711150393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 17 Nov 93*

[Text] Mr. Stuart Hamilton Rawdon Hume, ambassador of Australia to the Union of Myanmar [Burma], called on Lieutenant General Kyaw Ba, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and minister of hotels and tourism, at the latter's office at 1400 today.

The ambassador not only inquired about the country's tourism situation and hotel construction activities, but also inquired about Myanmar's political development. He especially asked about the security situation and the possibility of peaceful negotiations with the Karen insurgent organizations. The minister replied that the matter lies with the insurgents and thought they had their reasons for not returning to the legal fold. Lt. Gen. Kyaw Ba noted that the state wants all national races to live in unity and harmony and remarked that the state government has always opened its doors for peace negotiations.

The ambassador suggested the invitation of established Australian tourist agencies to arrange for Australian tourists to visit Myanmar. The minister explained the need for the ambassador's assistance for the tourist agencies to come to Myanmar and urged them to come and see the true situation of the country by themselves.

Khin Nyunt Invites Insurgents To 'Return'

*BK1911140193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 18 Nov 93*

[Excerpt] Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races [WCDBANR] and secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], accompanied by ministers, deputy ministers, responsible personnel from the Office of the SLORC, director generals and managing directors from the respective departments and enterprises, and responsible officials left Yangon [Rangoon] by Defense Service plane on the afternoon of 17 November. They arrived at Loikaw airport in Kayah State at 1400 in the afternoon.

Then Secretary-1 met with state-level heads of department and departmental personnel, residents, and local nationalities from Loikaw, Dimawhso, and Phru-so Townships at the city hall and delivered an address. In his address he said a delegation—comprised of cabinet ministers and high-ranking departmental personnel—led by him is visiting Loikaw on a special itinerary.

He said the landscape and scenery in Kayah State are beautiful and relaxing. Continuing, he said that the country has not been developed enough because of the instability and disorder caused by the internal insurgencies that emerged together with the independence. He continued, saying that since 1989 the SLORC has carried out various activities for national unity. It has also laid

down plans and implemented various activities with momentum and acceleration for the development of border areas and national races. These development activities are carried out in such a way as to be fair to the national brethren and to bridge the economic and social gap without any discriminations between the urban areas and remote regions. He continued, saying that since the SLORC has taken responsibility it has endeavored to convince some armed groups in the jungle to return to the legal fold and has achieved peace with them.

Due to the stability and peace in the regions where armed groups have returned to the legal fold, the state government carried out regional development activities peacefully—with utmost efforts—by joining efforts with the people from these groups. These regions have been developing in a short time. He said there are still armed groups in the jungles in Kayah State, and the state government is unable to undertake the developmental activities for the benefit of the border areas and national races as it sees fit. He added that the inhabitants of Kayah State need to work with the conviction that their state must also develop like others. The state government, along with people and armed groups in Kayah State, have responsibility for the development of Kayah State. That is why everyone needs to work together with the state government for their regional development.

Although the state government wants to undertake the development activities nationwide, it has to select the regions where there are conditions of tranquility, security, peace, and stability to implement these development activities. If there is peace and stability all over Kayah State, the state government can carry out development activities any place and at any time with momentum and dispatch. Not along ago, the Pyidaungsu Railroad linking Kayah State and Shan State was inaugurated. The secretary said he wants Kayah State to be developed like other regions. Not only the state government but also the people and the armed groups in the jungles in Kayah State also have responsibility for regional development.

The secretary said that is why he would like to urge the local nationalities to work for the return of the armed groups to the legal fold so that the state government can undertake the regional development of Kayah State with utmost efforts. He said he invites the armed groups to return to the legal fold and hold negotiations with the state government. If they have similar ideas as the state government does, then developmental activities can be undertaken by joining efforts.

The secretary said he, on behalf of the SLORC and the state government, is officially inviting the armed groups to return to the legal fold. He said the offer is made not because the SLORC is facing political, military, and economic crises. The reason is that the SLORC wants to reunite the national brethren. The SLORC is striving to achieve its political objective—the emergence of a firm constitution. He said the public servants are also needed to carry out their responsibilities dutifully and loyally in

accordance with the public servants' rules and regulations. While people are needed to work together with the state government to fulfill their responsibilities, the nationalities are also needed to work together for the development of the union by upholding three national causes. He said he invites the armed groups in the jungles to return to the legal fold as soon as possible so that they can work together with the state government for the development of the country and their states with firm conviction. [passage omitted]

Karen Official 'Suspicious' Over Talks Offer

*BK2211015993 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Nov 93 p A4*

[Text] The anti-Rangoon Karen group is suspicious of the latest overture from the Burmese junta for peace talks, saying it has to study the full text of the announcements before making any official comment.

The Karen's initial response came after the Burmese junta leader Lt Gen Khin Nyunt's statements delivered on three separate occasions during a visit to Loikaw, Kayah State, who extended "the offer (for talks) officially on behalf of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and the Government."

A Karen spokesman Arthur Shwe said he "is very suspicious" of the Slorc's new peace proposal and that Karen leader Gen Bo Mya has not yet come up with an official comment.

In one of his speeches, Khin Nyunt, also the top intelligence chief, said the Slorc "invites the armed groups to return to the legal fold and hold talks... It is hoped that the invitation of the Government will be conveyed to those concerned."

Burmese Armed Forces Attache to Bangkok Col Thein Shwe, a very close aide of Khin Nyunt, said yesterday that the Burmese general also guaranteed the safety of the ethnic delegates and pledged assistance in their return journey. "They will be well taken care of. They would start talks and if they were not satisfied they could go back. We are willing to send them back," Thein Shwe quoted Khin Nyunt as saying.

Khin Nyunt's statements, clearly directed at the three armed ethnic groups of Karen, Karenni and the Mon, indicated that the Burmese junta has not agreed to the ethnic demands that peace talks be held outside Burma and in the presence of the United Nations.

"It is totally impossible (to talk outside Burma). Absolutely no. This is purely an internal affair," Thein Shwe reiterated Rangoon's stance.

Arthur Shwe said the tone of the proposal sounds like "a threat" and that the Karen cannot accept among other wordings "to return to the legal fold" as "it will give legitimacy to the Slorc."

"If we talk with them, it means we accept the Slorc as a legitimate government which in fact it is not," he added. The Karen National Union, he added is "very reluctant" to enter into any negotiation, citing an experience in the early 1960s when peace talks failed because Rangoon refused to discuss political issues and instead demanded that the Karen disarm themselves.

The Karen, the Karenni and the Mon forces have set among other preconditions that Burma's popular leader Aung San Suu Kyi be released from detention as a goodwill gesture from Rangoon, and that peace talks be held between armed ethnic and Burmese groups on one side and the Slorc on the other.

In September, one of their close ethnic allies, the Kachin, finalised a mutual ceasefire deal with the Slorc and both sides are expected to sign an official agreement in the near future. The Kachin have since tried to persuade the three ethnic groups to unite with it in nationwide ceasefire talks with the Slorc.

Khin Nyunt's speech, transcribed from Burmese and distributed by the Burmese Embassy in Bangkok, also dropped the Slorc rhetoric terms of "armed insurgents" or "terrorist groups." Instead, a new term of "armed groups" was repeatedly used for the first time in his reference to a dozen of armed ethnic forces, which have been warring against Rangoon for greater autonomy.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir: 'No Regrets' on Missing APEC Summit

*BK2011143793 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in Malay 1300 GMT 20 Nov 93*

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says he has no regrets about not attending the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] summit in Seattle in the United States. He said although he has been condemned and belittled in certain quarters for not attending, it would not have made much difference if he had attended.

Responding to reporters in Subang Jaya, the prime minister said he could not understand why Australia seemed to be offended by his absence from the summit. He also said he did not agree with attempts to institutionalize APEC, moving away from the original purpose of being a loose consultative forum working to undertake projects and programs to liberalize regional trade within the 15 member countries.

Asked what could have made him attend the summit, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said it would have been a change of attitude by the United States regarding the ASEAN-led East Asia Economic Caucus, or EAEC. If the United States changes its attitude toward the caucus merely to gain a share of the economic dynamism and market

potential of East Asia, it would be a narrow way of thinking. They should accept Asia as an important part of the world, along with its people and cultures. Asians have the same rights as Americans and Europeans, and we should not be regarded as some strange group of people who should conform to Western values and cultures, he said.

Commentary Views APEC Meeting, Global Trade

BK1911094793 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The 15-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, is holding a crucial meeting in Seattle this week. Malaysia was represented by her minister of international trade and industry, Rafidah Aziz, who is concerned over the tendency of some countries to turn the grouping into an entity where they can push the less developed countries around.

If such an entity is allowed to continue unchecked, then APEC will be doomed to deviate from the goals of which it was evolved in 1989. As Rafidah Aziz said when meeting reporters at a press conference in London earlier this week, APEC as its name suggests, should serve as a vehicle for enhancing economic cooperation among member countries and remain a loose consultative forum, and should focus its attention on the trade aspects between and among the member countries.

One of the vital issues that will occupy the attention of the Seattle meeting will be the Uruguay Round of GATT trade negotiations. The deadline for a successful conclusion of the round is fixed for the December 15—just 26 days away.

The declaration that the APEC ministers will come out with at the end of the meeting will be crucial to the GATT talks which had gone on for seven years since 1986. If APEC can induce the participants in the Round to compromise on some difficult and delicate issues, and persuade them to meet the deadline, then APEC will be good at playing a useful and successful role in contributing towards the course of liberalizing world trade.

The ministerial meeting which began yesterday, is expected to announce a list of products on which member countries will be prepared to offer tariff cuts on goods. In some cases, the tariffs are being reduced to zero.

Malaysia on its part has already taken steps to reduce tariff level. This is in keeping with its commitment to the growth of an ASEAN Free Trade Area, or AFTA. In its 1993 budget, Malaysia reduced or eliminated tariffs on some 600 items and followed this up with a reduction or elimination of tariffs on another 500 items in the 1994 budget. This has been widely described as the single largest reduction by any country at any one time. In the

same manner, the APEC countries can urge their trading partners in other regions to join in the initiative to achieve the largest tax and tariff reduction, it will go a long way towards achieving a satisfactory conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. If the deadline for a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round passed this once again without a positive outcome, it can have drastic and severe consequences for developing countries.

It is hoped that the APEC ministers will, in their declaration, reemphasize the urgent need to complete the Uruguay Round on world trade as it will help revitalize the global economy and enhance the growth and development of all countries and regions around the world.

Trade Minister Reacts to NAFTA Passage

BK1911074293 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Malaysia hopes that the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, between the United States, Canada and Mexico will not be discriminatory to third countries in terms of market access.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz, who is in Seattle to attend the APEC ministerial meeting, said challenges lie ahead with or without NAFTA. The challenge is for Malaysia to be competitive or more competitive than others. She was responding to the White House victory on the agreement. The House of Representatives has voted 244 to 200 in favor of NAFTA after a lengthy and sometimes emotional debate.

On the possibility that investors would now flock to Mexico with NAFTA, Datuk Sri Rafidah said as long as Malaysia can provide the basic ingredients for viability, profitability, and security of tenure of investments, people still will come to Malaysia.

Daily: NAFTA May Result in Global Trade War

BK2211105793 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Nov 93 p 10

[Editorial: "NAFTA and the Rest of Us"]

[Text] NAFTA's [North American Free Trade Agreement] passage on Thursday made waves because the United States' already preeminent position in the world economy has been muscled up into a near-continent-wide phalanx of trade armour. Just like the flurry of alliance-making that preceded the Second World War when the rollicking shifts in geopolitical ranks sent the European powers down the slippery slope to war, NAFTA could set the stage for a polarisation of the world's trading nations into walled-in redoubts teetering on the brink of an all-out trade war. That is everyone's, including the U.S.' worst nightmare, just as a repeat of the devastation of the First World War had

been for the European statesmen of the 1930s. As in any design of strategic coalition building, its consequences depend on whether others see it as a threat, whether this is cultivated or unintentional, and whether there are unambiguous measures to remove such a perception.

Can NAFTA be dangled as a threat? On a crest of euphoria after its congressional victory, the Clinton Administration is lauding the consolidation of the North American market as the first drop to trade barriers falling domino-like across the globe. Although it is foisting NAFTA as the first of a "triple play" that includes APEC and is intended to culminate in GATT, the very ebullience of such a ploy will not fail to cock a snook at the Europeans. Since Europe is the only de-facto economic bloc, the Americans could carry their jubilation into a sore temptation to corral the rest of the world against it. The best thing would have been to get GATT concluded before setting out on other arrangements that improve on its terms. Now that it has gone the other way, the Americans could spark off the high-stakes brinkmanship that will inevitably usher in a feed frenzy of exclusionary bloc-building.

The immediate worry for developing exporting countries is the likelihood of a measure of trade diversion in favour of low-cost operators south of the Rio Grande. But Mexico has been such a closeted economy (it only started to open up in 1986) that simple cost factors alone are bound to cause such a disruption in the short term. Several "East Asian tigers" have made so-called "defensive investments" to forestall any diminution of market share. But East Asians are at least a few steps ahead in the export competitive game. They can agree with President Clinton that the best benefits for Americans would come in the medium term when Mexicans have grown richer and are able to afford a wider assortment of imports. However, Asians have remained irredeemably cool towards NAFTA because the U.S., far and away the economic ring-leader of the pact, would always be in a position to influence the composition of those imports after making sure that most of them would come from its own exporters.

The right vision of NAFTA has been enunciated by a notable American newspaper—an America that opens its borders to foreign goods in return for similar access abroad, an America that provides ample resources to train its workers so they achieve high productivity and therefore high wages.

Nothing more, nothing less. America is far from being as beholden to trade as, say, Malaysia. It can afford to be sanctimonious about trade. We and most of our East Asian partners cannot. East Asia has thrived on the very economic freedom that has become a pillar of the American way of life. Let America not be the first to throw a noose on that freedom.

Cabinet Agrees on Payment for Russian, U.S. Jets

BK2211110793 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Nov 93 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri.—The cabinet agreed at its weekly meeting on Wednesday that the purchase of 11 Russian-made MIG-29 Fulcrum fighter jets for the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) will be paid cash and palm oil. Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said today the volume of palm oil has not been determined in the negotiations between the ministry and the aircraft manufacturer, Mikoyan Design Bureau.

He said negotiations on the MIG-29s and the American F/A-18D Hornets made by the United States aerospace giant, McDonnell Douglas, were in the final stages. He expected the details of the payment for the aircraft to be known soon. The RMAF will get eight Hornet strike aircraft which will be paid cash.

Early this month, McDonnell Douglas had announced a U.S. \$250 million (RM [Malaysian ringgit] 637.5 million) joint industrial programme with Malaysian firms to offset the cost of buying the aircraft.

Najib was speaking to reporters here after meeting a delegation from the Spanish Defence Ministry headed by its director general of armament and logistics Francisco Arenas and Bazan Shipyard officials led by its president Antonio Sanchez Camara at his office at Wisma Pertahanan here. He said Spain had offered its maintenance and support system for the RMAF's Hornets. The Spanish Air Force has 75 Hornets. He added the ministry might use the Spanish Navy shipyard to build warships for the country.

The government had recently given the go-ahead for the Royal Malaysian Navy to buy 27 offshore patrol vessels [OPV] under the Sixth and Seventh Malaysia Plans. Najib said Camara was keen to participate in the OPV project.

Singapore

NAFTA Called New U.S. 'Political Orientation'

BK1911135093 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Nov 93 p 34

[Editorial: "NAFTA Clears the Blockages"]

[Text] At a public forum here on Monday, the American thinker, Dr. Henry Kissinger, said the vote on NAFTA would be the most important foreign policy decision the United States Congress would take in Mr. Bill Clinton's presidency. To him, the North American Free Trade Agreement was not so much a trade pact as a new political orientation for the United States. After it was passed 234-200 on Wednesday by the House of Representatives, President Clinton described it as a "defining moment" for the United States. "We chose to compete, not to retreat...to assert America's leadership in the

global economy." Neither man could be said to be expansive. This important victory has come at some cost to Mr. Clinton. His Democratic Party has alienated its natural ally, the trade unions which see NAFTA as a destroyer of jobs; that more Republicans supported the measure than his own Democrats has upset notions of partisan accountability even though congressional votes across party lines are common. How this would play out in terms of party hierarchies and Mr. Clinton's influence over rebels is not purely a concern of the White House point-men and the Democrats' national secretariat alone. As the manoueuvering over NAFTA and the voting pattern itself showed, foreign governments and their policies can get swayed by the behaviour of American lawmakers. But for now, all who stand for free trade should savour the moment.

NAFTA is of course not just the creation of the world's largest market comprising the United States, Canada and Mexico where tariffs will be removed gradually over a period of 15 years. Potentially the most durable accomplishment is that the vote re-defines America's direction after the end of the Cold War and Euro-communism. This is the post-USSR thinking built on the premise that with the Asia-Europe wax-and-wane process much in evidence, the United States has to seek new alignments. It had been drifting. But note this: American protectionists and isolationists of the Gephardt, Buchanan and Perot variety have been only dealt a setback, not defeated. They will mount a ferocious charge when and if the GATT agreement comes before Congress for approval. Two other positives flowing from NAFTA are economic in nature—what it tells Europe about the lateness of the hour where the GATT Uruguay Round goes, and the momentum the United States is building up in meshing its trade and investment grid with that of Asian countries.

GATT's Director-General Peter Sutherland may be a little hasty in his assessment yesterday that the passage of NAFTA has "significantly" improved the chances of the GATT talks being concluded by the December 15 deadline. What is certain is that the European Community nations, particularly the French, have been put on the defensive. If they keep stonewalling over agricultural subsidies, and eventually pull down GATT, they will have shown themselves as being opposed to the ideal of shared prosperity. Now, more than ever, the Europeans have to prove they have emerged from the Dark Ages.

As for the Asian community, the NAFTA vote heightens the sense of excitement that the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation meeting underway in Seattle can accomplish more than an exploration of mutually profitable trade linkages between North America and East Asia. With the leaders of the United States, China and Japan—the Pacific Triumvirate?—thrown together with the heads of a dozen other countries, the possibilities are limitless. Mr. Clinton may be constrained to be less cavalier in what he says about China after he has met President Jiang Zemin. Prodding by the ASEAN nations would no doubt put the host in the picture over why

sanctions on Vietnam are helping nobody. North Korea will be given a fresh airing: might not Mr. Clinton, who visited the demilitarised zone some months ago, want to be more forthright in facing up to the nuclear threat? None of these is on the table. This is precisely why, trade apart, Seattle excites. And Mr. Clinton now has the NAFTA vote in his pocket to act more confidently.

Country's Potential for Satellite TV Examined

BK2211080593 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES (Section 2) in English 20-21 Nov 93 p 1

[Article by Ross O'Brien entitled: "Battle of the Airwaves"]

[Text] ASIA's television revolution in full swing, with broadcasting companies, news organisations and entertainment channels going all out to tap into this fast-growing market for satellite TV.

In the midst of this is Singapore, a small TV market and historically one of the least receptive Asian countries to satellite broadcast. Yet it aims to challenge Hongkong as Asia's focal point, offering global players superior infrastructure and a low cost.

But has it what it takes to become the broadcasting hub of Asia? Reading the headlines of late, anyone would think that Hong Kong had already been crowned satellite king. Home to regional broadcasting giant Star TV and its sibling satellite operator AsiaSat, the newly-formed, competing broadcasting "Gang of Five" consortium, the forthcoming rival satellite Aptstar and East Asia's most thriving film industry, Hong Kong has attracted the pioneers of the new multinational broadcasting market.

It is also on the verge of its own domestic pay TV boom: local conglomerate Wharf Holdings plans to have cable distributed pay television boasting 20 channels by next year.

Singapore, on the other hand, has a single state-owned broadcasting corporation, one three-channel, UHF-distributed pay TV network also effectively owned by the government, and continues to restrict access to foreign broadcasts by banning the use of TV Receive Only (TVRO) satellite dishes.

At first glance, moving premium television services into Singapore does not seem to make a lot of sense. At 2.2 hours of viewing per person per day, Singaporeans watch slightly more TV than neighbouring ASEAN countries (although less than chief rival Hong Kong, with three hours), but Singapore's 2.8 million people seem a meagre market compared with Indonesia, Thailand or even Malaysia.

Yet, armed with survey findings that Singapore wanted more and better programming in English and Mandarin, Singapore Cable Vision (SCV) launched a cable service in April last year. SCV, owned by the Temasek-held

Singapore International Media and the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation, offers three channels sold separately or as a package offering English movies, Mandarin entertainment and news.

According to Andrew Green, media director for Survey Research Singapore SCV's penetration is estimated at 3 per cent of Singapore's households. It isn't as bad as it looks, as Mr Green quickly points out: "In one-and-a-half years, SCV is estimated to have a greater penetration than in the UK, which has had spotty cable coverage for over 11 years, and still only has 2.1 per cent penetration."

Service coverage of pay TV in Singapore continues to be an issue. The UHF distribution network still does not reach all Singaporean households, and acquiring the right antennae to get the service can cost as much as \$500.

There is no visible change in the policy banning TVRO dishes, which are currently limited to some foreign banks, embassies, and the National University of Singapore. But the government recently gave reason for more optimism, when Minister for Information and the Arts George Yeo announced that Singapore would, in the near future, have access to over 100 TV channels. But if there is one thing to be learned about TV's future in Asia, it is that the marketplace is regional, not local. And as a location for establishing a regional business centre, Singapore is tops. "We are completely satisfied with our move to Singapore; it's a terrific place to do business in Asia," affirms William Hooks, general manager for HBO Asia.

Chris Graves, managing editor for Asian Business News (ABN), a new entry to Singapore's broadcasting community agrees. When asked if he finds Singapore an expensive place to do business, he asks in return: "Compared to where? Hong Kong? Not really. Tokyo? Definitely not. And if we were anywhere else in Asia, we would not have the roads, the phones, or the flights we need to do our jobs."

ABN went on air on Nov 1, with an 18-hour format centred around half-hour market reports throughout the Asian trading day.

For its news coverage, the company relies on its Singapore-based staff of 90—nearly half reporters—and its Hong Kong bureau, stringers, video feeds from news services, as well as the resources of the Asian Wall Street Journal and the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, publications of ABN's editorial parent, Dow Jones.

ABN will be shown over Hong Kong's IBC from Dec 13, and distribution discussions are underway with broadcasters in Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and of course Singapore.

HBO stuck its flag in Singapore after the deal with SCV was closed in 1992 and remains confident of its position

in Singapore—its first venture into Asia. The US's top cable movie station is looking at Singapore as a small slice of the pie, but more importantly as the headquarters for its planned Asian distribution expansion.

The general perception of Singapore as a strictly controlled media market is not shared by media executives. "I have always maintained that (HBO) will provide programming on the local country's terms," insists Mr Hooks.

Adds Mr Graves: "If we find that nobody in the region picks up our programming, we cannot blame the regulators, we have to acknowledge it as a marketing problem."

Singapore is more than able to compete with Hong Kong on an infrastructure basis and the small local market—affluent and watching more TV—offers some promise to both programmers and advertisers.

However, there is another crucial set of gears in the TV machine that Singapore does not yet possess in quantity: programming. "The broadcasting hardware is out there," says ABN's Mr Graves. "More satellites are going up and transponder rentals will go down. The key to a successful broadcasting venture now is the software: you need programmes that people will watch."

What would Singapore put on those potential 100 channels? The challenge will be in harnessing a large chunk of Asia's programming potential, namely, Hong Kong's Chinese movie juggernaut, and thriving film industries in India, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

There are also signs that Singapore is beefing up its own "software" production. SBC has poured millions into a new production studio centre in Tuas. It boasts world-class video and sound production studios and high-calibre expertise culled both locally and from recession-hit production centres such as the UK and Australia. Moreover, the local industry still maintains one of the lowest filming and post-production costs in Asia.

Singapore-produced Mandarin programming is also making an impact on international markets. SBC's Caldecott Productions, which holds international distribution rights to SBC productions claims successful inroads into China with its Mandarin serials, and has targeted Taiwan and Hong Kong. The top five television programmes in Johor in 1992 were all SBC 8 productions.

SBC is also taking its first step into the satellite broadcasting arena itself. Perhaps in a bid to prove itself to the international broadcasting community, SBC will begin beaming one hour of news and locally produced programming daily off Palapa B2P from next January. However, industry officials think that for all these positive signs, Singapore may be selling itself short. "Singapore has everything it needs to become a major broadcasting hub; what it now has to do is market itself more aggressively internationally," observes HBO's Mr Hooks.

Ultimately, technology will also force the hand of regulators as well. While Singapore still fully intends to keep up its ban on TV dishes, even the government has admitted that this is feasible only for a time. BG Yeo's 100 channel cable network vision, then, could be used as further defence against unregulated broadcasts—by providing viewers with bountiful but controlled choice.

Singapore will not be immune to the rushing tide of TV distribution technology nor will it want to be as it attempts to grow an industry where global access is the lifeblood. It has most of the ingredients to become a TV hub for Asia and is working at filling in the gaps. A darling of the multinational business community, Singapore does not have to work too hard to get broadcasting businesses to locate here.

Hong Kong's pre-eminence as host to two satellite operators is arguably a nonissue, as Palapa, Intelsat and Inmarsat continue to expand service, and more regional satellite programmes are soon to be underway in Malaysia and Thailand.

The programming issue is likely to be the deciding competitive edge: here Singapore's domestic industry clearly lags behind Hong Kong's "Hollywood of the East", but through nurturing local production houses and building alliances with international broadcasters, Singapore is likely to stay in the running.

Cambodia

Sihanouk's 17 Nov Message to Nation Reported

BK2111022493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] On 17 November, King Norodom Sihanouk, who is currently receiving medical treatment in Beijing, PRC, addressed a message to the nation and people. Following is the essence of the message:

1. I regret and am very much concerned that I have to be away from the nation and people to continue my medical treatment in a Beijing hospital until May or June 1994. I have been compelled to continue the treatment until the end in order to have a chance to live longer with our nation and people who still need me to unite, restore, and build the country and also to defend our nation and motherland.

2. It is imperative that the sacred national unification continue forever to enable us to solve all national problems—small, medium, and big problems that are confronting our entire people; and in order to ensure peace, stability, and the perpetuity of our Kingdom of Cambodia. In other words, this is to enable our Cambodia to survive forever as an independent country with territorial integrity worthy of a nation and people, descendants of Angkorian Cambodians.

3. Our people should understand that they are the masters of Cambodia's destiny and of their own destiny in the present as well as in the future. In this position, whenever our people face problems and difficulties, every person has the right and duty to raise these issues to the assembly and the government and to demand that these institutions solve them in accordance with the pledge they made in front of the throne promising to do their best to serve the nation, motherland, and people.

Sihanouk Speaks on Illness, Other Issues

BK2011055493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Nov 93

["Message to the nation from His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman" in Beijing; date not given—recorded]

[Text] I would like to extend my highest respects to the two supreme patriarchs, Venerable Patriarchs Pouthiveang, Mongkoltepeacha, and Khousananda, and to all venerable monks; I would like to extend my profoundest love and everlasting faithfulness to wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and all compatriots male and female alike.

I always think about the most revered and beloved patriarchs, venerable monks, wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and compatriots male and female alike. I feel very sorry and sad that this cancer has kept me away from you, revered and beloved patriarchs, venerable monks, wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and compatriots, and adored motherland. I have to get medical treatment at the main hospital in Beijing until May or June 1994. That means that we have to be away from one another for seven or eight months. This event has made me miss you and feel very sad. At this hospital, however, our most revered great Chinese friends have, day and night, given me great care and very thorough and effective medical treatment. They have done this with an incomparable expression of friendship and fraternity.

All revered and beloved supreme patriarchs, venerable monks, wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and compatriots can fully trust in these great Chinese professors and doctors. They are all very capable.

In May or June 1994 at the latest, I might be able to end the six sessions of this multifarious medical treatment, particularly the treatment by chemotherapy and radiotherapy, at the general hospital in Beijing.

After completing all those treatments, I will certainly be able to return to Cambodia so as to stay with and join the supreme patriarchs, venerable monks, wise men, nuns,

brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and compatriots in further serving and protecting all beloved compatriots and in restoring and rebuilding our motherland.

At present, a lot of my hair is falling out. Sooner or later, I will certainly become bald, all of my hair will certainly fall out. This is an unavoidable result of the treatment by chemotherapy, a medical method for curing cancer. This is because after the operation to remove the cancerous tumor from the area near the penis, small cancerous tumors still exist at other places in my body. The doctors must destroy them by using chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Otherwise, those small cancerous tumors might spread and I will not be able to live for many more years as wished. To be me to live longer according to the wish and in the interests of revered and beloved supreme patriarchs, venerable monks, wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and compatriots, and our nation and motherland, I must patiently endure this treatment through to the end. That is, I must force myself to be away from all the revered monks and esteemed and beloved compatriots for more than half of another year. Even so, I would like to inform all the revered monks and esteemed and beloved compatriots that I am still working from the Beijing general hospital so as to serve our motherland and people by keeping in close and constant contact with our nation, motherland, monks, Royal Government, National Assembly, friendly countries across the world, the international community, various agencies of the United Nations, diplomats in Cambodia, and so forth by [words indistinct] messages, letters, documents, proposals, and so forth.

I am still working, from the Beijing general hospital, in the service of our beloved motherland and people.

Esteemed and beloved compatriots, I would like to express warmest commendation to all esteemed and beloved compatriots for the perfectly brilliant and great success of the preparations and process of the recent national day celebrations to mark the 40th anniversary day that our Cambodia regained full independence. The brilliant and great success that resounded widely outside our Cambodian frontiers was made possible thanks to the sacred rallying of all esteemed and beloved compatriots around the throne as we used to do during the 1952-53 royal crusade.

The lofty patriotic unification between (?monks), people, and male and female youths and the National Assembly, Royal Government, Khmer Royal Armed Forces, police force, and national authorities constitutes the firm foundation of that brilliantly great success of the celebrations of the 40th National Independence Day.

May the sacred unification that constitutes the survival of our motherland and race last forever so as to remain a favorable factor to facilitate the solution to the food problem, the problems of the citizens, and all small, big, and medium problems, and to safeguard and enable the

Kingdom of Cambodia to enjoy a future of lasting peace, stability, and perpetuity. That is for the eternity of our people with national independence, territorial integrity, and honor as the children of the Angkorian land.

Dear compatriots and people, do not forget that you now have a Constitution with modern democratic characteristics, one of the most modern democratic constitutions in the world. It is stressed in the Constitution that the compatriots are the masters of Cambodia's destiny and of their own destiny now as well as in the future. Your representatives who are members of the National Assembly and of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC] have taken a solemn oath in the Theveavinichai Palace and in front of the king, reading a detailed and lengthy document on the tasks that they must fulfill, the work that they must carry out, and the physical and mental strength that they must display in serving the motherland, nation, religion, and people. Therefore, so long as the members of the National Assembly and of the RGC correctly appropriately implement and follow their oath, the sublime interests of our people and motherland will be effectively and honestly fulfilled.

Our male or female citizens who have no legislative, judicial, executive, court, administrative, military, and police powers should not forget that our Constitution fully recognizes the rights and freedoms of all citizens. This is in order to ensure a permanent protection for our people, our eight to nine million citizen male and female alike.

Our people can and must maintain their very close contact with their representatives who are the lawmakers, administrators, leaders, supervisors, and authorities. Should our citizens, male and female alike, encounter any problems concerning their lives or have any other complaint, they are entitled and duty-bound to complain or lodge a complaint to the personages or authorities concerned to revolve those problems or complaints correctly and fairly in line with the interests of our people, our citizens.

Esteemed and beloved supreme patriarchs, venerable Patriarchs Khoustananda, Pouthiveang, and Mongkoltepeacha, venerable monks, wise men, nuns, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and compatriots, please accept Lord Buddha's five blessings—longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment.

Sihanouk Offers Khmer Rouge Government Posts

BK2211104093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 22 (AFP)—King Norodom Sihanouk, reversing an earlier vow not to include the Khmer Rouge in the elected Cambodian government, said Monday he would give them senior government positions if they surrender.

In a paper from his sick-bed in Beijing, released by the Royal Palace here, the king said the government headed by his son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, would give "several posts of co-ministers, co-deputy ministers, co-secretaries of state and advisors to 'acceptable' personalities within the Party of Democratic Kampuchea."

He named the notorious leader Pol Pot and his deputies Ieng Sary Nuon Chea and Ta Mok as unacceptable, but said nothing about the current nominal leader Khieu Samphan or military commander Son Sen.

The government positions would be given only in exchange for the faction giving up its zones of control, specifically the sacred temple Preah Vihear on the Thai border and the faction's western gem-rich headquarters of Pailin, King Sihanouk said.

The Khmer Rouge must also observe an immediate ceasefire, "including ceasing attacks on villages, destruction of state and private property including bridges, roads, railway lines, and the cessation of mine-laying," the king said.

Chea Sim Wishes Sihanouk Speedy Recovery

BK2011153793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Letter from Acting Head of State Chea Sim to King Norodom Sihanouk; dated 19 November—read by announcer]

[Text] With respect to his majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Your Majesty: I and all of Your Majesty's children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, as well as Buddhist monks throughout the country, are greatly moved at having seen your face on television and heard on national radio the message that you addressed in your own voice with the greatest love and care to your people on 17 November 1993 from the General Hospital in Beijing.

Through this valuable message, all your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have learned about the medical treatment for your sickness and have clearly seen and felt the comfort of your magnificent mind, full of the four principles of virtuous existence toward your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. We are awaiting your return so you can be the cool shade and most comfortable backing for the Cambodian people.

All your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren promise always to respect and follow your august advice and pledge to follow in your footsteps until the end of our lives.

We are all firmly convinced that Your Majesty is the only person who is capable and has the matchless skills to rally the forces of great national union—Cambodian unity—in this new historic period for the sake of the

bright future of the Kingdom of Cambodia, enjoying peace, stability, independence, full territorial integrity, prosperity, and glory like all other civilized countries across the world.

All your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren throughout the Kingdom beg for Lord Buddha's Triple Gems, all sacred objects in the world, and all the guardian spirits to protect our adored king and Her Majesty Queen Norodom Monineat Sihanouk. May Your Majesty recover quickly from sickness and regain the best of health so that you will always stay close to your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, who always wholeheartedly display their great devotion and loyalty to you.

Please, Your Majesty, accept our highest regards.

[Dated] 19 November 1993

[Signed] Chea Sim [words indistinct]

Indonesia

Textile Exports 'Not' Threatened by NAFTA

BK1911114193 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 3 Nov 93 p 4

[Excerpt] Jakarta, 3 Nov—The creation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will not pose a threat to the export of Indonesian textiles to the United States and Canada. Everything will proceed smoothly as usual. Kamrul Jafri, vice chairman of Indonesian Textiles Exporters Association (API) told PEMBARUAN after attending a lecture by Dr. Gary Clyde Hufbauer, a senior rector at the Washington-based Institute for International Economics in Jakarta on Tuesday (2/11).

The event was organized by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

The emergence of NAFTA, which groups the United States, Canada, and Mexico is making Indonesian exporters, especially the textile exporters, restless. This is because Mexico is competing with Indonesia to make a breakthrough into the large U.S. market.

Kamrul said that under NAFTA Textiles from Mexico are exempted from customs and excise tax when entering the U.S. market. But Mexico is required to buy the raw material for manufacturing its textiles from the United States or Canada. As a matter of fact, raw material such as yarn is very expensive there. "It is very much cheaper here. Thus NAFTA will not reduce the export of Indonesian textiles to the United States, and it will not affect our interests," he added.

A new problem would arise if Mexico is allowed to buy raw material for its textile manufacturing from Indonesia or Taiwan. "If this happened, the export of Indonesian textiles and textile products would decline. We are fortunate now that the Americans want to and have to sell their cotton and yarn to Mexico," Kamrul said.

"However, it would also be a problem for Mexico if it is forced to buy the yarn from the United States. Mexico is not free to buy yarn from countries outside NAFTA," he continued. [passage omitted]

Papers Urge ASEAN Unity Within APEC

BK1911073993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 19 Nov 93

[From the Press Review]

[Text] BERITA YUDHA believes the United States and Australia are too enthusiastic to hasten the creation of trade liberalization through the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC forum. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher stated in his speech that APEC's basic objective is to relax trade regulations for its members, which means that they desire a liberalized trading system. Such a system would not benefit smaller nations or developing countries which still need (?protection) for their budding industries.

KEDAULATAN RAKYAT says if the APEC summit in Seattle decides on turning APEC into a more formal group, then APEC members would be bound by previous agreements. APEC, with its major objective of relaxing trade regulations, would witness a greater and freer inflow of foreign products into the ASEAN market. Such a condition would not be beneficial for ASEAN, which still needs protection for its budding industries. According to KEDAULATAN RAKYAT, ASEAN's economic growth is currently strong, even without APEC. Therefore, at the APEC summit in Seattle, ASEAN should remain united so that APEC can be designed as a beneficial forum.

Ideas on 'Future Development' of APEC Viewed

BK2011103993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 20 Nov 93

[From the press review]

[Text] Focusing on the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] meeting due to end today in Seattle in the United States, the daily SUARA KARYA says there are two concepts, or ideas, on the future development of APEC. The first wants to turn APEC into the Asia Pacific Economic Community, similar to the European Community, or EC. The second wants APEC to remain a consultative forum to enhance economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region without having it develop into a new economic bloc.

While waiting for the results of the APEC meeting, which will soon be known, SUARA KARYA calls for an objective assessment of the problems connected with the two concepts. According to the daily, it is in fact not yet time to turn APEC into an economic community similar to the EC, whose current form took decades to materialize. APEC has one positive aspect, however. Predictions that the next century will be a Pacific era will

almost certainly come true. This can be seen in Asia's economic growth, which reached 7.9 percent in 1992, while economic growth in the seven industrialized nations, or G-7, was only 1.5 percent during the same period. In view of this development, SUARA KARYA calls on Indonesia to do its best to exploit every economic opportunity.

In this connection, the daily ANGKATAN BERSENJATA underlines the remarks by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas during the preliminary APEC ministerial meeting some time ago that APEC provides an opportunity for constructive dialogue between developed and developing nations, particularly on economic issues of mutual interest. In addition, APEC provides an opportunity for enhancing South-South cooperation. According to ANGKATAN BERSENJATA, the opportunity to enhance South-South cooperation and the North-South dialogue is very significant, particularly because Indonesia, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, has been charged with reactivating North-South dialogue.

Laos

Excavation Mission for U.S. MIA's Assessed

BK2111044093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] According to sources in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and National Defense, the first joint Lao-U.S. technical excavation operation for remains of U.S. MIA's for the 1993-94 fiscal year beginning on 1 October this year was carried out from 19 October to 10 November in Sekong and Saravane Provinces. The mission was successfully carried out as planned by the U.S..

The joint technical team conducted excavation activities on two aircraft crash sites at Point 1530 and Point 1600.

At Point 1530 on an 80-by-60-meter area, 649 bone fragments, five [word indistinct], 13 teeth, one tooth cap, three identification cards, and a large quantity of pilot gear were discovered. The excavation operation ended on 8 November.

At Point 1600 on a 55-by-40-meter area, 1,550 bone fragments, five (?teeth), a number of tooth caps, a set of false teeth, eight identification cards, seven (?dog tags), and a large quantity of pilot gear were retrieved. The excavation mission at this point ended on 5 November.

The search and excavation mission—the 34th so far—was far more fruitful than any other previous operations carried out since 1985. The U.S. side was very pleased with the findings and highly assessed the excellent cooperation rendered by the Lao side. All findings and data discovered in the excavations will be sent to an MIA research center in Honolulu, Hawaii, for identification. According to official U.S. figures, a total of 514 U.S. soldiers were reported missing in action in Laos. So far,

thanks to joint cooperation between the two sides, 50 remains of U.S. MIA's in Laos have been recovered and identified.

U.S. Helps Build Schools, Hospitals

*BK1911123393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio
Network in Lao 0000 GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] As a gesture of appreciation extended to the Lao Government and people for rendering good cooperation to the United States in carrying out excavation operations at U.S. plane crash sites and in seeking information about U.S. soldiers missing in action in Laos during the war, this year a U.S. engineering battalion has built three seven-classroom schools as gratis aid to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], worth U.S. \$50,000 each. The ceremonies to officially accept the schools were organized in Vilabouli District of Savannakhet Province on 26 October, Khong District on 7 November, and in Phonthong District in Champassak Province on 11 November.

Attending the handing-over ceremonies on the U.S. side were (John Miles), first secretary; (Veland), charge d'affaires ad interim; Mrs. Mary Johnson, third secretary; and Lieutenant Colonel (Randall) from the U.S. Embassy in the LPDR. Representing the Lao side was Donsom Vannasit, chief of the Europe and America Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and Lieutenant Colonel Sikhai Keovisai from the Ministry of National Defense in the presence of the local administrators concerned together with school teachers, students, pupils and parents.

With an understanding on humanitarian cooperation between the two countries, from 1985 to date, the two sides have conducted excavation operations at plane crash sites on 34 occasions in nine provinces throughout the country, recovering remains of 50 pilots shot down and killed during the war. A total of 514 U.S. soldiers were reported missing in Laos.

The United States has helped Laos build two district hospitals and eight schools so far—three in Savannakhet Province, one in Houa Phan Province, one in Xieng Khouang Province, one in Saravane Province, and two in Champassak Provinces.

SRV's Quang Tri Delegation Visits Khammouane

*BK1911103193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio
Network in Lao 0000 GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] On 17 November, the delegation of the SRV's Quang Tri Province headed by Nguyen Duc Hoan, secretary of the party committee of Quang Tri Province, paid an official visit to Khammouane Province. The delegation was welcomed by Inpong Khai-gnavong, secretary of the party committee of Khammouane Province, and other Lao cadres concerned.

The Quang Tri provincial delegation is scheduled to pay a four-day visit to Khammouane Province. In addition

to visiting many production areas, the SRV delegation is also expected to hold consulative talks with their Lao counterparts on the assessment of the implementation of a cooperation memorandum signed by the two provinces in the past and the intensification of regional cooperation in various fields between the two provinces in the coming years.

Satellite Equipment Received From SRV

*BK1911102193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio
Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Nov 93*

[Text] On the evening of 17 November in Vientiane capital, a ceremony was held to receive a satellite television signal receiving unit, worth U.S. \$5,000, as an aid material from the SRV. Handing over the equipment to the Lao side was (Nguyen Vinh Cam), head of satellite technology service of the SRV Ministry of Culture and Information. Representing the Lao side in accepting the aid material was Phonphet Inphom, chief of the Mass Media Department of the Ministry of Information and Culture. Bounteng Vongsai, deputy minister of information and culture; Bui Van Thanh, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos; and a number of concerned cadres from the two sides attended the handing-over ceremony.

The satellite receiving equipment consists of a 3.6-meter disk antenna, a [WA-12T] satellite signal receiver, a control unit with a 16-memory system, a motorized control system, a frequency receiving component, a signal demodulator, and other accessories.

Khamsai Souphanouvong Report: 7th Installment

*BK1711123393 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Oct 93
p 3*

[Seventh and final installment of "report" by Finance Minister Khamsai Souphanouvong to the Second Ordinary Session of the Third National Assembly convened in Vientiane from 27 September to 8 October 1993, entitled: "The Implementation of the 1992-93 State Budget and the Draft 1993-94 State Budget"—date not given]

[Text] 4. To upgrade and train finance cadres:

The Ministry of Finance must continue upgrading and training finance cadres to meet the following criteria—to have a correct political attitude, to attain good qualifications, to possess a certain level of specialized knowledge, and to work at the grass-roots to gain practical experience among the masses. The ministry must pay special attention to this work.

I, therefore, would like to propose to the National Assembly to endorse the outcome of the execution of the 1992-93 budget plan and the draft 1993-94 budget plan for implementation. At the same time, I would also like to ask you, all members of the National Assembly, to

give support to and to explain the government's restructuring policy and socioeconomic and budget plans to our multiethnic people throughout the country.

May this ordinary session of the National Assembly attain a brilliant success.

Thank you.

District Established in Vientiane Municipality

BK1811092593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] On the morning of 16 November, Boun-gnang Volachit, member of the Party Central Committee and secretary of the party committee and governor of Vientiane municipality, officially announced the implementation of the prime minister's decree on the establishment of Sangthong District. Sangthong is the eighth district of Vientiane municipality. It comprises 34 villages with a total of more than 14,400 citizens. This district was formerly called Longsang-Longton special zone or Phialat District. It was later renamed Sangthong District.

Following the establishment of Sangthong District, Boun-gnang Volachit also announced an appointment of Kenta Kongbounmi as party secretary and administrative chief of the district.

Attending the ceremony to mark the establishment of the new district were Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihan, first secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee as representative of the Administration Department attached to the Prime Minister's Office, along with a number of concerned, high-ranking cadres.

TV Station Set Up in Savannakhet Province

BK2111060693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Excerpt] During his participation in the nationwide 1993 conference on information and culture work, Boun-gnong Saipan-gna, chief of the Information and Culture Office of Savannakhet Province, gave an interview to our reporter, saying that in 1993, activities in this field in the province have been carried out with firm steps and numerous outstanding achievements. In information work alone, the province has constructed a radio station to broadcast numerous programs for 16 consecutive hours a day on the party's and government's political policies, news, and entertainment reports to serve the public. In addition, the province is also in the process of setting up a one-kilowatt television station to telecast quality programs four days a week—on Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday—to serve and entertain the people. The radio and television stations have placed an emphasis on regularly raising technical qualifications of their reporters and programmers. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Ramos To Discuss Trade Issues With Clinton

BK2211111793 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 19 Nov 93 pp 1, 8

[By Johanna Son]

[Text] The Philippines is preparing to raise a host of trade concerns to the U.S. government—ranging from better market access to the country's removal from the list of intellectual property rights violators—when President Ramos goes to Washington next week.

Government sources said these concerns were submitted to President Ramos, who is expected to pitch for trade issues to recast economic ties with the United States. The United States remains the Philippines' biggest market, with 1992 exports valued at \$3.83 billion, mainly from garments, electronics and sugar. The country has a \$1 billion surplus with Washington.

A paper prepared by the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade said the Philippines plans to bring up these issues with the Clinton administration:

- Keeping the U.S. market open to key Philippine products, such as its sugar exports and items where U.S. duties are high because of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
- Removing the country from the U.S.' ordinary watch list on intellectual property rights.
- The entry of Philippine carrageenin (seaweed) through the U.S. government's denial of petitions seeking its ban.
- The maintenance of or increase in its sugar quota, which has been declining.
- Assurance by the U.S. government that it would lift import restrictions on Philippine fresh mangoes once they are found [words indistinct].
- Reconsideration of a new U.S. law that restricts that country's purchase of imported tobacco, such as those from the Philippines, because this "violates" the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.
- The maintenance of a Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) scheme favorable to Manila.
- Better terms for the Philippines' coconut oil and canned tuna exports.

What the Philippines fears most from NAFTA is the possible shift of U.S. investments to Mexico, officials said. A study by the trade department showed that NAFTA's impact on Philippine exports would be "limited."

This is because a good portion of Philippine exports to the United States enter on a most favored nation or GSP basis; Mexican exports to the United States already have low duties; Philippine costs of production are lower than Mexico's; and NAFTA's strict rules of origin would be hard even for Mexican producers to satisfy.

Philippine exports which are likely to feel NAFTA's effects are those with high U.S. duties, such as textiles, luggage, certain television sets and sugar.

Even in sugar, however, "this threat can only become a reality should Mexico (still a net sugar importer) become a net surplus producer of sugar," officials said. Officials preparing for the U.S. visit proposed that if Washington increases Mexico's sugar quota, "it should take into consideration the preservation of the Philippines' historical share in the American sugar market."

The Philippines was dropped in April from the U.S.' priority list of countries that could be investigated for violating intellectual property rights. But it remains on the ordinary list, even though Manila has been committed to legislation to improve intellectual property rights protection.

The entry of Philippine Natural Grade (PNG) carrageenin is being blocked by U.S. businessmen, and 28 congressmen recently sought an inquiry into its safety as a food additive despite a safety seal given in 1991 and 1992.

The Philippines' sugar quota fell by 19 percent in the current quota period (October 1993 to September 1994), and may drop further if Washington takes away from other exports to increase Mexico's share.

Officials warned, though, that "further cuts in the quota could threaten the economic viability of the Philippine sugar industry."

Fresh mangoes cannot enter the United States due to supposed seed weevil and fruit-fly infestation.

The U.S. agriculture department is now studying Guimaras Island as a source of pest-free mangoes, and officials proposed that President Ramos press for a U.S. pledge to "immediately open up" the market after tests are made.

Philippine exports of tobacco reached \$2.9 million in 1992, as U.S. imports of tobacco fell due to a U.S. law that Manila says violates GATT because it discriminates against foreign products.

"Measures of this kind contradicts the trade liberalization efforts of the Uruguay Round (of GATT)," the paper said.

The U.S.' GSP scheme, extended until September 1994, covers \$1.05 billion of Philippine exports including sugar. GSP recipient-countries worry that the Clinton government would impose non-trade related conditions—such as human rights and environmental protection—for its extension.

This would be "contrary" to GSP's main objectives, especially if used as a "weapon to force developing countries to open their economy to U.S. exports or improve intellectual property rights protection," the paper explained. Philippine coconut-oil exports may be

hurt by "mandatory nutrition labelling" of meat and poultry containing saturated fats. Filipino officials are also pushing for the equalization of duties on canned tuna in brine, which are lower, and those in oil.

Thailand

Commentary Notes Chuan-Clinton Rapport

BK2211025793 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Nov 93 p A6

[Commentary by Kawi Chongkitthawon in Seattle entitled: "Bill Clinton Sees Eye-To-Eye With Chuan"]

[Text] After the 40-minute tete-a-tete between Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and US President Bill Clinton, it was clear that Thai-US relations have a future.

The most important aspect of the summit is quite simple—Chuan and Clinton simply got along very well. Plainly, they liked each other. Even government spokesman Aphisit Wetchachiwa, who was Chuan's interpreter, was surprised with the degree of warmth that prevailed between the two. Other senior Thai officials were equally elated. They said that the two leaders' common political background and vision as well as their youth were contributing factors in their ability to establish a personal rapport.

Towards the end of the conversation, Aphisit said that Clinton told Chuan he would like to work with him for a long time to come. His comment drew smiles from a confident Chuan, who had just won a no-confidence vote against his government a few days before he met Clinton. The US president also faced a similar battle in Congress to pass the North American Free Trade Agreement.

In addition, the president's impromptu comment, during the photo-session, was a good starter when he expounded on the reasons why he picked Chuan for his first bilateral meeting. Initially, Chuan uttered the usual perfunctory statements that Thailand was a good ally of the US and they had good security relations and worked closely to combat narcotics and were partners in the reconstruction of Cambodia. But it was the US president's good word on Chuan that changed the tone of their encounter. Clinton said he admired Chuan's effort to bring democracy and human rights back to Thailand.

He also seemed to be impressed by Chuan's courage and decision—when he allowed the Nobel laureates to campaign in Thailand last February for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house-arrest for five years.

Aphisit and other Thai officials at first thought that Clinton wanted to bring up the situation in Burma as he made a strong comment about the issue at the outset of the meeting. But unexpectedly, Clinton did not mention Burma again during the discussion.

"If he did, the outcome would have been a little bit different," the spokesman said.

After the meeting, Chuan told the press he was ready to explain Thailand's policy toward Burma, if it was raised. He said Thailand will continue to maintain its current policy of trying to break the international isolation of Burma and bringing the besieged country into the political mainstream.

"There is no other way," Chuan said. Thailand is hosting the ASEAN foreign ministerial meeting next year. Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri has made it known he would invite Burma to attend the meeting as an observer. During the UN meeting among ASEAN foreign ministers, Indonesia and Singapore strongly opposed the move as it would focus the world's attention unnecessarily towards ASEAN.

At the moment, according to Sarasin Wiraphon, the Foreign Ministry's Director of America and Pacific Affairs, it is difficult to gauge US attitude towards Thailand's policy on Burma as Washington is also in the process of reassessing its own position. But beyond that, Sarasin said the Clinton-Chuan summit had laid a good framework for future Thai-US relations. He added that Washington and Bangkok would become more engaged and expansive in their dealings with each other, and will include not only economic and security cooperation but also cooperation in social and cultural spheres as well.

"After all, the summit was a good break for Thai-US relations, which has been plagued by trade relationships. Now we can focus on the more positive aspects," said Chuan's secretary, Thawatchai Wichaidit. "It is also a good start," he added.

Chuan has made it clear that the US must continue to accord Thailand trading privileges under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) as the country was making steady progress on the protection of US intellectual property rights as well as the improvement of workers' rights. Apparently, being a Democrat, Clinton too has been concerned about workers' plight in Thailand after they were deprived of freedom to form their unions or to stage demonstration. Chuan said his government is committed to undo the legislations which restrict workers' rights enacted during the "revolutionary" time. He apparently was referring to the February 1991 coup.

The Thai side is confident that there will be an increase of US trade and investment with Thailand from now on, after a decline in the past two years. Chuan has suggested that both countries' private sector should be more active in promoting US investment in Thailand, which currently ranks third behind Japan and Taiwan.

With the opening up of Indochina, Chuan said US investors will have more opportunities to do business within the region and they could benefit from Thailand's experience because of the country's geographical location.

As far as security was concerned, Sarasin said that Thailand urged the US to play an active role in preventive diplomacy, which will be the main feature in the future security arrangements in the region.

Bangkok will host the ASEAN Regional Forum next year, a new security grouping which will include representatives from all major powers in the Asia-Pacific.

The summit has provided the much needed impetus to revive Thai-US ties that now has found a new meaning in the age of Asia-Pacific cooperation.

Official on Tariff Cut Offers at GATT Meeting

*BK2211014793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
22 Nov 93 p 22*

[Text] THAILAND is satisfied with the tariff cuts proposed by the countries attending the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations in Geneva since November 15, according to a Business Economics Department official.

Ms Phuangrat Atsawaphisit, the department's expert on international trade negotiations, said after returning from Geneva last week that Thailand had offered GATT average tariff cuts of 30 percent for petroleum, and deep tariff cuts to 5 percent for wood and fish. She said most GATT members offered deep tariff cuts on condition that they get something in return. Canada offered to cut its tariffs to zero for wood if furniture tariffs are also zero.

Disputes over market access for industrial and agricultural goods are the main obstacle to bringing the Uruguay Round of the GATT talks to a successful conclusion by the December 15 deadline. She said the four major trading powers—the United States, European Community (EC), Canada and Japan—had tabled satisfactory proposals on industrial products but not on agricultural products.

The EC tabled a list which changed non-tariff barriers to tariff barriers, widely known as tariffication, in order to comply with GATT, but Thailand is concerned that the tariffs will be very high for Thai exports such as tapioca, frozen chicken and canned tuna.

Japan had refused to change the non-tariff barriers on all of its agricultural products, particularly canned pineapple and meat. It had also asked for a six-year exemption from tariffication for rice. Ms Phuangrat said Thailand had expressed dissatisfaction with Japan's offers.

She said Thailand is satisfied with the offers by other GATT members because most of them will help Thai exports. The US had granted a lot of Thailand's tariff-cut requests. She said most countries had cut tariffs to zero on eight items initiated by the four major trading powers, including pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, construction equipment, steel, beer, spirits, furniture and farm equipment.

Many countries had also expressed interest in deep cuts for other items proposed by different countries, such as wood, fish, non-ferrous metals, textiles, electronics, chemicals, oil seed and scientific equipment.

Libya Approves Request for Talks on Thai Labor

*BK2211015193 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Nov 93 p A4*

[Text] LIBYA has approved a request for a visit by a Thai delegation this week for talks on the future of 10,000 Thais threatened with deportation by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi, a government source said. However, since the request was made three weeks ago the United Nations has extended sanctions against the North African nation and it was not clear when or if the visit would go ahead.

Libya is being pressured to hand over two men alleged to have masterminded the bombing of a Pan Am 747 over Lockerbie in Scotland three years ago which killed about 270 people. The source said it was expected that Libya would propose during the talks that both countries establish embassies in the respective capitals to speed up negotiations.

In a speech on state television earlier this month al-Qadhafi told construction firms to fire Thai workers, alleging that Thailand had backed US claims Tripoli was secretly building chemical weapons.

"If Thailand wants to turn its back on us, under threat from the US and pretend that we are building a tunnel to make a chemical bomb, we say to Thailand: we are no longer need 10,000 Thais and let them go home."

Tripoli's approval of the delegation's visit was conveyed through the Libyan Embassy in Malaysia, since Bangkok and Tripoli do not have direct diplomatic ties.

Cooperation, Trade Talks Held With Russia

*BK1911025593 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Nov 93 p B2*

[Text] Thai and Russian delegations yesterday discussed economic cooperation and measures to improve bilateral trade and investment. They were brought together at a seminar on the "Prospects for Trade and Investment Promotion between Thailand and the Russian Federation," hosted by the Foreign Ministry at the Tawana Ramada Hotel.

Oleg V. Bostorin, ambassador of Russia, said bilateral trade and investment have been hindered by the Russian capital shortage, lack of business information and lack of understanding of new commercial systems on the part of Russian businessmen.

Another major problem is that Russian businessmen are uncomfortable dealing directly with foreign companies, which makes Russian businesses dependent on middlemen, Bostorin said.

As a result, the Russian delegation, representing the government and private sectors, asked for the establishment of a Thai-Russia Chamber of Commerce to encourage business information cooperation.

According to a Russian representative, the Russian government has drawn up a commercial law covering foreign investment, free-trade zones and joint ventures.

At present, foreign investment in Russia is \$500 million annually (in the energy, manufacturing, machinery, and electronics industries). But investment from Thailand is still minimal. Trade between Thailand and Russia rose from \$225 million in 1992, and is expected to further increase this year. However, Suchitra Hiranphruk, director-general of the Department of European Affairs, said in the first half of 1993 Thailand had a trade deficit with Russia.

Ambassador Urges 'Vast' Investment

*BK2011061993 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Nov 93 p A3*

[Text] Russian Ambassador Oleg V. Bostorin has called on the Thai business sector to tap his country's vast natural resources and resume trade with it, while Moscow is doing its best to overcome some critical problems hindering foreign investment.

Addressing a seminar on the prospects of trade and investment promotion between Thailand and the Russian Federation, he told participants on Thursday that the government was doing its best to overcome the obstacles faced by foreign investors and invited Thai businessmen to invest in department stores and Thai restaurants.

"In an effort to enhance bilateral relations and provide incentives to investors, the government has exempted certain taxes and in some cases reduced import taxes. Efforts have also been made to upgrade the existing ports in order to facilitate transportation of goods and the establishment of chamber of commerce to provide information on investment opportunities would all help," he said.

The ambassador said Thai-Russian relations dated back to the time of Czar Nicholas II in the 1900s and King Chulalongkorn who used Russia to balance power and pressure projected by France and Britain.

"After the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia was even more eager to look for mechanisms to strengthen not only bilateral economic relations but also cultural exchanges," Bostorin said. He said Bangkok and St Petersburg agreed to become sister cities and jointly celebrate the centennial of Thai-Russian relations planned for 1997. The agreement was made by Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan during his visit to St Petersburg in September with Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak of the Russian city.

The celebration would include exhibitions and exchange of visits by dignitaries and cultural troupes.

Thailand has mainly imported steel, fertilizer, cotton yarn and paper pulp while its export to Russia are clothes, shoes, plastics and rubber, among other products, according to Bostorin. However, he said many regions in the Russian Federation are rich in natural resources like coal and gold which could offer investment opportunities.

The director general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of European Affairs, Suchitra Hiranphruk, said Russia had expressed its desire to impart scientific knowledge or knowledge in specific areas of engineering sought by Thai business companies. She said the setting up of the exim bank which would come into operation in 1994 would help boost trade considerably.

According to the Economic Research Department's Assistant Director Nitaya Phibunratanakit, the bank would provide export credit insurance besides giving long-term credits to exporters/importers.

"The bank, offering great benefits, would definitely build confidence among investors as it would act as a guarantor for payment in case trading partners are faced with bankruptcy or the country suffers from political unrest or the importing country restricted transferring foreign exchange," he said.

Thai Farmer's Bank Senior Vice President Tharin Thiwari said bilateral trade between the two countries was "disappointing." There were quite a number of problems limiting growth in trade because of disciplinary currency control exercised by Thailand.

"It was only at the turn of the decade that the central bank relaxed control but Thai banks are still not comfortable with lending to non-residents and the term of lending beyond a six-month period. Thai banks still view Russia with caution if not passivity in business deals," he said.

Financial Cooperation Agreement With Hungary

*BK1911021593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Nov 93 p 23*

[Text] Thailand and Hungary have agreed to expand cooperation in the financial sector as a basis for future trade relations, Deputy Commerce Minister Chaiyot Sasomsub said yesterday. During two days of talks with a visiting Hungarian delegation, representatives of both countries explored many areas of cooperation.

The Hungarian Government has pledged to assist any Thai banks that want to open representative offices or branches in Hungary, where banking competition is relatively limited now.

A Foreign Trade Department source said the Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank representative has been encouraged to deal with Krung Thai Bank. An agreement is likely to

be signed by the two banks to provide financial support for exporters, particularly in counter trades.

Mr Chaiyot signed a bilateral joint trade agreement with Hungary's deputy secretary of state for the Ministry of International Economic Relations. He also said Thailand had asked Hungary to relax quotas now applied to many products. The Hungarians have agreed to consider quotas for Thai products on a case-by-case basis. Both governments agreed to expand trade, currently limited to few products. Rubber and frozen pork are expected to be given priority.

Thailand's trade with Hungary totalled less than \$40 million in 1992. Exports included rice, coffee, videos, radios, computers and parts, integrated circuits, canned food, toys, garments and leather products.

Mr Chaiyot noted that the Bangkok Mass Transport Authority is considering buying Hungarian-made Ikarus buses. Thailand has asked Hungary to consider importing more products from Thailand to balance the scale.

Private-sector representatives who accompanied the Hungarian mission ordered 9,000 tons of 10

white rice, 40 containers of canned pineapple juice and canned fish from Thailand. The Hungarian importers are also interested in leather products, garments and doctors' gloves.

Mr Chaiyot said both governments agreed to use each others' countries as gateways to their respective regions—Thailand to Indochina and Hungary to Eastern Europe.

Prosecutor Reviews Intellectual Property Cases

*BK1911021193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Nov 93 p 6*

[Text] As many as 240 cases of violation of the copyright and trademark laws were filed with the Criminal Court during the past six months, according to chief prosecutor Suthon Saengsayan of the Economic Crime Division.

Mr Suthon said 17 cases were filed in June, 51 in July, 60 in August, 60 in September and 52 in December. He said most of the defendants prosecuted were retailers in Mah Boonkrong and Patpong areas and at various department stores. In most cases, the defendants were heavily punished said Mr Suthon. He said most of the culprits were caught selling music cassette tapes, leatherware and watches.

Yesterday Den Saensida, 19, was prosecuted in the Southern Bangkok Criminal Court after he was caught selling pirated music cassette tapes of ten companies.

Official on 'Upsurge' in Government Corruption

BK2111015993 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 21 Nov 93 p 1

[Text] There has been an upsurge in corruption among government officials during the past five years, with many officials having been fired for malfeasance in office, Deputy Prime Minister Banyat Banthaththan said yesterday. More than 1,100 government officials have been fired over the past five years, an average of 220 a year, Mr Banyat said. He was speaking at a seminar on compensation for civil servants, organised by the Political Science Association of Thailand at Ban Man-angkasila.

Mr Banyat said that many more cases of corruption have probably gone unreported because the corrupt officials were protected by their superiors. The Government has set up a committee to improve the administration system, he said, but the corruption problem is a difficult one to solve.

Past governments have been shortlived so there was little time to build stability into the civil service. But the Chuan Likphai Government is confident of its stability and believes it will be able to make the necessary improvements. A problem in improving the civil service is that officials will not cooperate with the Government if they think it will undercut their bureaucratic power, but this type of thinking is decreasing, Mr Banyat claimed. He said a major obstacle to improving the system is the sharp growth of the civil service. It has more people than necessary, which requires a great deal of money for salaries while reducing efficiency.

Modern administration techniques also run into problems with Thai civil service laws and regulations because administrative power is still centred in Bangkok, Mr Banyat said. Improving the bureaucracy is a key policy of the Government aimed at keeping pace with economic and social growth. State enterprises have to be more efficient and serve the public better.

Corruption must be stopped, the bureaucracy must be improved and civil servants must get more benefits and compensation in keeping with economic conditions, he said.

Vietnam

Government, PRC Said To Disagree Over Spratlys

OW1911135093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1326 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi, Nov. 19 KYODO—Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh and Chinese President Jiang Zemin failed to reach agreement over territorial disputes over two groups of islands during talks in Beijing last week, Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] sources said Friday [19 November].

The sources said both presidents insisted their country has a historical claim to the Spratly Islands and the Paracel Islands in the South China Sea.

Anh was the first Vietnamese president to visit China since the two sides reestablished diplomatic relations in November 1991. During his November 11-15 stay in the Chinese capital, Anh also met with Premier Li Peng and National People's Congress chairman Qiao Shi. China and Vietnam signed an agreement in October on fundamental principles for settling their border and territorial disputes.

The two countries have held a series of ministerial-level talks concerning the demarcation of their land border as well as the disputes over the islands. But the sources said both presidents failed to find any point of agreement over the territorial issue.

China and Vietnam have exchanged high-level visits annually, starting with a visit to China by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet in 1991, followed by Chinese Premier Li Peng's visit to Vietnam last year.

Reportage on Visit by Singapore's Lee Kwan Yew

Lee Urges Regional Planning

BK1811142693 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Nov 93 p 2

[By Tan Lian Choo in Ho Chi Minh City]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City—Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew yesterday urged Vietnamese officials here to keep to a master plan that would co-ordinate and integrate development of the country's bustling south. Otherwise, he said, there was a risk of development going awry and city planning being dramatically constrained.

"In 20 to 30 years' time whoever is the chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee then may curse you or thank you," Mr. Lee told the officials. He made the remarks during an 80-minute friendly and frank exchange of views between the visiting Singapore delegation and a team of local officials headed by Mr. Truong Tan Sang, chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee.

According to a Singapore official, Mr. Lee had asked if the existing Dong Nam Bo master plan for developing the southern triangle of Ho Chi Minh City, Bien Hoa and Vung Tau encompassed one or three administrative units.

Mr. Sang replied that this had still to be decided on, prompting Mr. Lee to stress the importance of sticking to a general master plan. He said Vietnam's bustling southern capital could draw lessons from post-war Japan, where rapid growth took place before there had been any real conceptualisation of Tokyo's eventual development as an international financial centre.

Mr. Lee's remarks followed Mr. Sang's upbeat report that Vietnamese planners had forecast an average 14 per cent annual growth rate between 1995 and the year 2000. Per capita income, which is projected to be about US\$850 (S\$1,360) in 1995, is expected to reach US\$2,000 in six years' time. The unemployment rate, currently estimated at 11 per cent, can be brought down from 1997, when the economy took off, said Mr. Sang.

At a dinner later, Mr. Lee predicted that economic growth in Vietnam's southern triangle area would accelerate once infrastructure was improved. Now that Vietnam had access to low-interest loans from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank for infrastructure development he said, roads, ports, airports, telecommunications and power stations could be improved. Yet, stressed Mr. Lee, Vietnam could do more by improving the intangibles.

He said: "You can also increase your growth rate by non-physical improvements, like streamlining your administration and making things more convenient for investors. You can develop a reputation of abiding by international practice on contracts, that once an agreement has been signed, there should be no changes either in spirit or letter of the contract. You can also develop clear and consistent rules and regulations for foreign investors. All these will increase confidence. And foreign confidence in your reliability is the secret of success."

Mr. Lee, in Vietnam for a five-day visit, arrived here earlier in the day. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lee, Minister for Information and the Arts and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs Brigadier-General (Res) George Yeo, and Minister of State for Finance and Communications, Commodore (Res) Teo Chee Hean.

Lee Kwan Yew Arrives in Hanoi

BK1911150393 Hanoi VNA in English 1431 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 19—Singapore's Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew and his party arrived here this afternoon on a second visit to Vietnam at the invitation of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew, his wife and his party were greeted by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife, Cabinet Ministers Le Xuan Trinh, Do Quoc Sam and Dau Ngoc Xuan, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, and other senior officials.

This evening, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife gave a banquet to Singapore's senior minister and his entourage. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew in their speeches at the banquet expressed their pleasure at the rapid and fine development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. They reaffirmed the two countries' determinations to further promote those relations in the interests of the people of Vietnam and Singapore as well as for peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Lee Cautions Hanoi on Inflation

BK2011113493 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Summary From Poor Reception] Vietnam needs a stable and convertible currency if it is to keep its inflation under control. Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew gave this advice when he met Profesor Do Ngoc Xuan, chairman of Vietnam's State Planning Committee, this morning. He also pointed out that as long as Vietnam's budget deficit is more than seven percent, it would be difficult to keep inflation under control.

Mr. Lee, who is on his second visit to Vietnam, said the country had improved much in the last few years. Mr. Lee said economic policies should include privatizing many state enterprises and having joint ventures with foreign investors.

Mr. Lee later called on President Le Duc Anh at the presidential palace. Vietnam's economic reform was the main topic of an hour-long discussion. President Anh said the policies of a centrally managed economy had been a mistake and his country is now committed to developing a market economy.

President Receives Lee Kwan Yew

BK2111151393 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1215 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] At the invitation of SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Singaporean Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew and his wife, Singaporean ministers, high-ranking officials, and businessmen arrived in Hanoi on 19 November for an official visit to Vietnam. On hand to welcome Minister Lee Kwan Yew and his entourage in Hanoi were Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife, Ministers Le Xuan Trinh, Do Quoc Sam, Dau Ngoc Xuan, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, and many other high-ranking officials.

On the evening of the same day, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife hosted a banquet in honor of the Singaporean delegation.

On 20 November, Minister Lee Kwan Yew paid a courtesy call on SRV President Le Duc Anh. The Vietnamese president warmly welcomed Minister Lee Kwan Yew and his wife. The President stressed that the visit—the second by Minister Lee Kwan Yew—will contribute to further strengthening the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He also highly appraised Minister Lee Kwan Yew's valuable ideas to Vietnam's renovation process.

His Excellency Lee Kwan Yew expressed his pleasure on having the chance to visit Vietnam again. He thanked the Vietnamese leaders for their warm welcome and hospitality. He presented some valuable viewpoints and pledged that he will continue to share his experiences

with the Vietnamese leaders in implementing the renovation, especially in areas in which Singapore has scored great success.

Minister Lee Kuan Yew also exchanged views on the orientations for cooperation and investment between Vietnam and Singapore in the days ahead, with the aim of exploiting to the optimum all the potentials of the two nations. He expressed the hope that the bilateral relations will be further expanded and developed, thereby significantly contributing to the peace, stability, and prosperity of the two countries and of the region.

Also attending the reception were Vu Khoan, deputy foreign minister; Vo Hong Phuc, deputy chief of the State Planning Commission; and Hoang Tuan, deputy chief of the Presidential Office.

On the morning of 20 November, Minister Lee Kuan Yew held talks with Do Quoc Sam, minister, and chairman of the State Planning Commission. Attending the meeting, on the Vietnamese side, were leaders of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment, and the Office of the Prime Minister.

Minister Do Quoc Sam briefed Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew on the Vietnamese socioeconomic situation during the 1991-93 period, and the orientations for socioeconomic development for the 1994-95 two-year period, as well as Vietnam's open door policy, which is aimed at making the people prosperous, the nation powerful, and society advanced.

His Excellency Lee Kuan Yew highly appraised Vietnam's socioeconomic achievements recorded during the past years. He presented Singapore's experiences in national development programs. He asserted that Singapore is ready to expand and develop its friendship and cooperation with Vietnam for the interests of the two peoples and for the peace, stability, and prosperity of the region.

Vo Van Kiet Hosts Dinner

BK2111101193 Singapore THE BUSINESS TIMES in English 20-21 Nov 93 p 1

[Text] Singapore investments in Vietnam will increase steadily, but the country should do its part to improve efficiency and infrastructure.

Speaking at a dinner hosted by Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet last night, Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew said Singapore will do whatever it can to help Vietnam close its gap with the dynamic economies of ASEAN. He added that the infusion of new technology and modern management from Japan, the newly industrialising economies, Europe and eventually America is the foundation for Vietnam's economic modernisation. But he cautioned that Vietnam faces "very keen competition" from big economies like China and India—the two giants that are liberalising their economies to attract investors.

"The next two to three years are important," Mr. Lee said. He urged Vietnam to improve its efficiency and provide better infrastructure. The government, he said must aim to make the administration user-friendly to investors. This means it must continue to support investor in their businesses after they have made commitments. It has to remove bureaucratic difficulties and improve coordination and communication between agencies, between central and local government, and between north and south Vietnam. The best way to get more investors, said Mr. Lee, is to help those already in the country.

He added that Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong hopes to visit Vietnam early next year to further strengthen bilateral ties.

Earlier, in his speech, Mr. Kiet said his country looked forward with enthusiasm to the visit of his Singapore counterpart. He said he was satisfied with the improvement in bilateral relations in all fields, from trade and direct investment to technical cooperation. He added that Vietnam was taking measures to create a conducive environment for domestic and foreign investment. These included reorganising state-owned enterprises, building an open economic system to perfect the market mechanism, and improving the legal system.

Mr. Lee arrived at Hanoi yesterday, after two days in Ho Chi Minh City.

Daily Reviews Lee's Five-Day Visit

BK2211105193 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 22 Nov 93 p 20

[By Yong Pow Ang]

[Text] China is Vietnam's most formidable competitor for foreign investment in the immediate term, says Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew. But China will become Vietnam's biggest export market in five to 10 years.

Summing up his five-day official visit in Vietnam yesterday, Mr. Lee said Vietnam offered investors low-cost labour and land, and a workforce that "can be hardworking". But Vietnam's legal structure and physical infrastructure are not in place. Because of damages caused by the Vietnam War and the legacy of a centrally-planned economy Vietnam will take "at least 10 years, if not more, to get back to normalcy", said Mr. Lee.

Compared to Vietnam, wages in China are not as low. But the infrastructure in China is better. Its legal structure, though still weak, has been revamped for a longer time than in Vietnam. Apart from China, Vietnam is also facing competition for foreign investment from Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia in that order, said Mr. Lee.

"If I were the Vietnamese looking at the competition, I'd closely monitor what the Chinese offer to the foreign investors. I've to make my adjustment, to make myself just as attractive if not more," he said.

Mr. Lee said he urged the Vietnamese leaders to make the administration user-friendly to investors. "From the debriefs we had with our own investors, it (the administration) is like a Vietnamese tunnel. It's still a war-time maze," said Mr. Lee. But Vietnam will be selling its consumer products in China in five to 10 years' time. Its wages will be about one third or half those of the Chinese. And with modern machines from the West and ASEAN countries and eventually America, Vietnam will be undercutting the Chinese producers in price.

"Do not rule them (the Chinese) out as your largest single market, especially the southern provinces. There is a tremendous potential in the crossborder trade between North Vietnam and South-western China, like Yunnan, Guangxi and Hainan," said Mr. Lee.

During his five-day visit in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, his second in Vietnam since April last year, the senior minister met Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and General Secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Du Muoi. He was briefed about the latest economic situation in Vietnam. He also held a brainstorming session for two and a half hours with Vietnamese cabinet ministers and economic experts.

Mr. Lee emerged from the meetings cautiously optimistic about the Vietnam's future. He said Vietnam had the benefit of experience from the reform in China. It has liberalised the economy without significant social disturbances. But Vietnam has to go through the same syndrome as the communist system in East Europe, the Soviet Union, and China. Inflation is one of the main problems as the country frees prices.

Mr. Lee said the budget deficit should never exceed 5 percent of the gross domestic product [GDP] if inflation is to be controlled. But the losses of the state enterprises in Vietnam account for 5 to 7 percent of the GDP. Reforming them incurs significant political price, as there is a lack of social security support for retrenched workers.

The senior minister said there will be more job offers from the private sector in two to three years as the infrastructure comes on stream. Infrastructure investment, by itself, provides jobs. And the second boost will come from more investment. But the more "nerve-racking" business is at the ground level. "Veterans of 40 years of battle and struggle will not be the most efficient administrators. You've got to pension them off and get young people who are familiar with the outside world and know what's got to be done into position of relative authority," said Mr. Lee.

Mr. Lee arrived in Hong Kong yesterday evening. He will be giving a keynote speech at the Second World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention today.

Lee Kuan Yew Departs for Hong Kong

BK2111125293 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Summary From Poor Reception] Vietnam may have to pay political price to the market reforms it wants to achieve. Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew said this at a news conference in Hanoi at the end of his visit to Vietnam. The senior minister also called on Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet this morning before leaving Vietnam for Hong Kong. While in Hong Kong, Mr. Lee will address the second World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention.

U.S. Professor Awarded at Symposium on Defoliants

BK2011150993 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 20—The Vietnamese president has conferred 'Friendship' medals on American Prof. Arnold Schecter of Syracuse University in New York, the United States, and Doctor Miura Hiroshi, vice president of the Vietnam-Japan Medical Exchange Centre, for their studies of the consequences of the toxic chemicals used by the US Armed Forces in the Vietnam war and their humanitarian aid to the Vietnamese people to overcome the war aftermaths. Occasion was the 2nd International Symposium on 'Herbicides in War, the Long-Term Effects on Man and Nature' held here from Nov. 15-19 by the National Committee on the Consequences of Chemical Warfare in Vietnam, the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Science Technology and Environment.

During the symposium, more than 200 Vietnamese and foreign participants discussed problems such as dioxin in human organism, soil composition, vegetal organism and its long-term effects on the environment. It was reported that US defoliants known as Agent Orange had caused long term, dangerous effects on the environment and millions of people in Vietnam. Over the past years, the country has done much to solve problems caused by the US toxic chemicals, providing initial medical care to the victims. Reforestation has been promoted nationwide particularly in areas destroyed by the US defoliants to restore the environment to normal conditions.

Joint Cooperation Commission With Iraq Meets

BK1911143393 Hanoi VNA in English 1421 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 19—The Vietnam-Iraq Joint Commission for Economic, Commercial, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation held its 7th session in Baghdad, Iraq, from November 15-17.

The Vietnamese delegation to the session was led by Minister of Finance Ho Te, President of the Vietnamese

Section to the Joint Commission and the Iraqi delegation by Minister of Trade Muhammad Mahdi al-Salih, president of the Iraqi section to the joint commission.

The two sides reviewed the implementation of the minutes of the 6th session and discussed possibilities for bilateral cooperation in the years to come.

While in Baghdad, Finance Minister Ho Te was received by Prime Minister Ahmad Husayn Khudayir and Foreign Minister Muhammad Said al-Sahhaf. He also met with the standing Deputy Minister of Finance and the governor of the Central Bank. He attended the opening ceremony of the national exhibition and fair and visited a number of construction projects.

During the meetings, Prime Minister Ahmad Husayn Khudayir and other senior officials of Iraq spoke highly of the traditional friendship between the Iraqi and Vietnamese people. They expressed their belief that the friendship and cooperation between the two countries would be constantly consolidated and developed for the interests of the two countries.

Joint Construction Agreement Signed With Cuba

*BK1711151993 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT
17 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 17—An agreement on Vietnam-Cuba construction joint venture was signed here today by the Vietnamese Vice Minister of Construction Tran Van Huynh and his Cuban counterpart, Alfonso L. Regueira, who is on a visit to Vietnam.

The signing was witnessed by Ms Tania M. Delgado, Cuban ambassador to Vietnam, and Vietnamese Construction Minister Ngo Xuan Loc.

Under the agreement, a joint venture called Vic will be set up by two construction firms of Cuba and Vietnam. Vic will undertake various activities in feasibility study, designing, quality controlling, consultation, technology transfer and production of building materials.

Earlier Mr. Regueira and his party had working sessions with representatives of several major construction companies to explore the cooperative opportunities between the two countries.

Cooperation Documents Signed With Ukraine

*BK1811144393 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT
18 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 18—An agreement to set up the Vietnam-Ukraine Inter-governmental Commission for Economic, Commercial, Scientific and Technological Cooperation, and a protocol on economic and trade cooperation between Vietnam and Ukraine for 1994 were signed here recently.

The signing took place during the visit to Vietnam from Nov. 10-17 by an economic and trade delegation of Ukraine led by Vice Minister of External Economy A. I. Kolov.

While here, the Ukraine delegation was received by Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong, and had working sessions with officials of the Ministry of Trade and a number of Vietnamese business establishments to discuss the possibility for bilateral cooperation in energy, rubber, tea, and coffee.

Joint Belgian Committee Holds First Session

*BK1811150393 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT
18 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 18—The Vietnam-French speaking community Belgium joint committee held the first session here Nov. 16 in the framework of the agreement on bilateral cooperation in the fields of culture, social issues, education, public health, justice, information and youth.

The two sides discussed priority areas in bilateral cooperation for 1994 and methods to implement the agreements earlier reached.

The minutes of the working session were signed in the presense of the Vietnamese deputy minister of culture and information, Luu Tran Tieu, and Belgian ambassador, Benoit Reylandt.

National Congress of Peasants Closes 19 Nov

*BK1911141793 Hanoi VNA in English 1403 GMT
19 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 19—The final session of the Second National Congress of the Vietnam Peasants' Association was held here today in the presence of General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Do Muoi and State President Le Duc Anh.

The congress adopted the report on the peasants' movement and the association's institutional organization over the past five years, the main orientations and tasks for the next five years, and amendments to the association's statute.

The congress also elected a new 77-member executive committee. Mr. Nguyen Van Chinh was re-elected as president, Mr. Nguyen Duc Trieu and Ms. Nguyen Thi Hue as vice presidents.

The congress passed an appeal to the Communist Party of Vietnam and the state asking for more investment in rural infrastructure construction, capital support to farmers, especially poor farmer households, for economic development, and for a policy of agriculture promotion. It also calls on the state to make policies to concretize the Fifth Resolution of the Party Central Committee on rural socio-economic renovation and

development, first of all policies on prices and production insurance, and on the allotment of land for long-term and stable use to farmers, and other policies on social affairs in rural areas.

Loans Help Saigon Harbour Increase Capacity

*BK1911073393 Hanoi VNA in English 0651 GMT
19 Nov 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 19—Saigon harbour is expected to be able to lift its handling capacity from the existing 7 million tonnes to 10 million tonnes per year, as a result of loans from the Asian Development Bank [ADB]. Saigon harbour is the biggest among the seven harbours nationwide with its handling capacity accounting for two thirds that of the total harbours.

Since 1989, ADB experts have come to inquire into the harbour upgrading and has decided to increase its initial lending from USD 22 million to USD 33 million in 1991

and USD 55 million now for the expansion and renovation of the harbour. The ADB loans will be spent on upgrading 90 per cent of the existing 2,000 metres of piers, raising the weight of piers from 2 tonnes to 7 tonnes per sq metre and upgrading container dock, chiefly container-loading equipment like cranes to handle ships loaded with 2,000 containers. Part of the loans will go to pay for the training of port managerial staff.

To effectively use ADB loans, the Saigon harbour authorities planned to purchase equipment from Europe and Japan or to organise biddings for equipment supply to accelerate the renovations project scheduled to be completed in 1997.

The Saigon harbour is now accessible to ships of 30,000 tonnes as against the international use of 50,000-tonne ships. Therefore, the Saigon harbour will join in the project for construction of a deep port in Thi Vai (Vung Tau) to accommodate large vessels.

Australia

Ties With Vietnam 'Clouded' Over Human Rights

*BK1911130193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0630 GMT 19 Nov 93*

[Text] Australia's hopes of sending a human rights mission to Vietnam have been set back by a statement from Hanoi that sending an investigative team would constitute interference in its internal affairs. The statement came after Australian Defense Minister Robert Ray said on Wednesday [17 November] that he would find it strange if Vietnam did not act to implement Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's personal undertaking to host the visit by an Australian human rights team. The issue has been clouded by confusion about exactly what sort of mission Australia wishes to send. The latest statement by the Vietnamese seems to rule out a visit altogether. But as Christopher Kremmer reports from Hanoi, Australian officials are still hoping a delegation of some kind will be received.

[Begin Kremmer recording] The friendly relationship between Australia and Vietnam has been clouded by misunderstanding over the nature of the proposed human rights delegation. The proposal put forward by Australia was accepted by Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet during his visit to Australia earlier this year. However, diplomatic sources say Vietnamese's hackles were raised almost immediately when the press release announcing the visit issued by the office of Foreign Minister Gareth Evans referred to the delegation as an investigative team. Defense Minister Robert Ray's statement in the Senate on Wednesday that Australia would find it strange if a date of the visit was not set soon reflected Australian frustration with the lack of progress in organizing the visit.

Communist Vietnam is opening to the West economically but wants to maintain tight control over political freedom. Just this week, four Buddhist monks were sentenced to up to four years in jail each for allegedly organizing antigovernment protests last May which turned violent in the central city of Hue.

In a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry here, Vietnam says sending a so-called human rights investigation delegation would constitute interference in its internal affairs. Hanoi says it's willing to talk to foreign delegations about matters of mutual interest in a spirit of mutual respect but an investigating team would be contrary to that spirit.

Australian officials feel there is still a chance to salvage the human rights mission. They say the perception of Australian investigators embarking on a formal hunt for human right violations in Vietnam is an incorrect one.

They prefer to call the visit a fact-finding mission. It remains to be seen whether Australia can finesse the issue sufficiently to the visit to go ahead by next March as Senator Ray hoped on Wednesday. [end recording]

New Zealand

3d Quarter Unemployment Rate Drops to 9.1%

*BK1911073293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0011 GMT
19 Nov 93*

[Text] WELLINGTON, Nov 19 (AFP)—New Zealand's official unemployment rate fell to 9.1 percent in the September quarter, when the seasonally-adjusted number of unemployed was 151,000, Statistics New Zealand (SNZ) said Friday. The latest figures continue a trend which has seen unemployment fall from a December 1991 peak of 10.8 percent. SNZ said the latest figures, from its household labour force survey, were down from a 9.8 percent rate and a 161,000 unemployment total in the June quarter.

The August quarterly survey showed a seasonally-adjusted total of 1.5 million people in jobs, which was up 22,000 or 1.5 percent, from the June quarter. The level of employment in the August quarter was the highest since the June 1988 quarter.

Vanuatu

Ruling Party Reaffirms Support for Coalition

*BK1811115093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1123 GMT
18 Nov 93*

[Text] PORT VILA, Nov 18 (AFP)—The ruling party here reaffirmed its support Thursday for a coalition agreement that will allow it to effectively govern after recent elections, radio reports said here. The Ruling Union of Moderate Parties (UMPs) Thursday reaffirmed its agreement with a dissident faction of the National United Party (NUP).

The announcement comes after UMP's national council met from November 13 to 17 to sort out its options after elections in three of the country's local government councils. The results showed an overall victory for UMP, but still required alliances for control of the three regions: Ambae—Maewo, Malekula and [words indistinct].

UMP currently has 21 seats out of 46 in the Vanuatu parliament. Its ally NUP faction has four. The NUP Lini faction has 6, and the rest of the opposition, Vanuaaku Pati, Melanesian Progressive Party, Tan Union, and Nagriamel, has 15.